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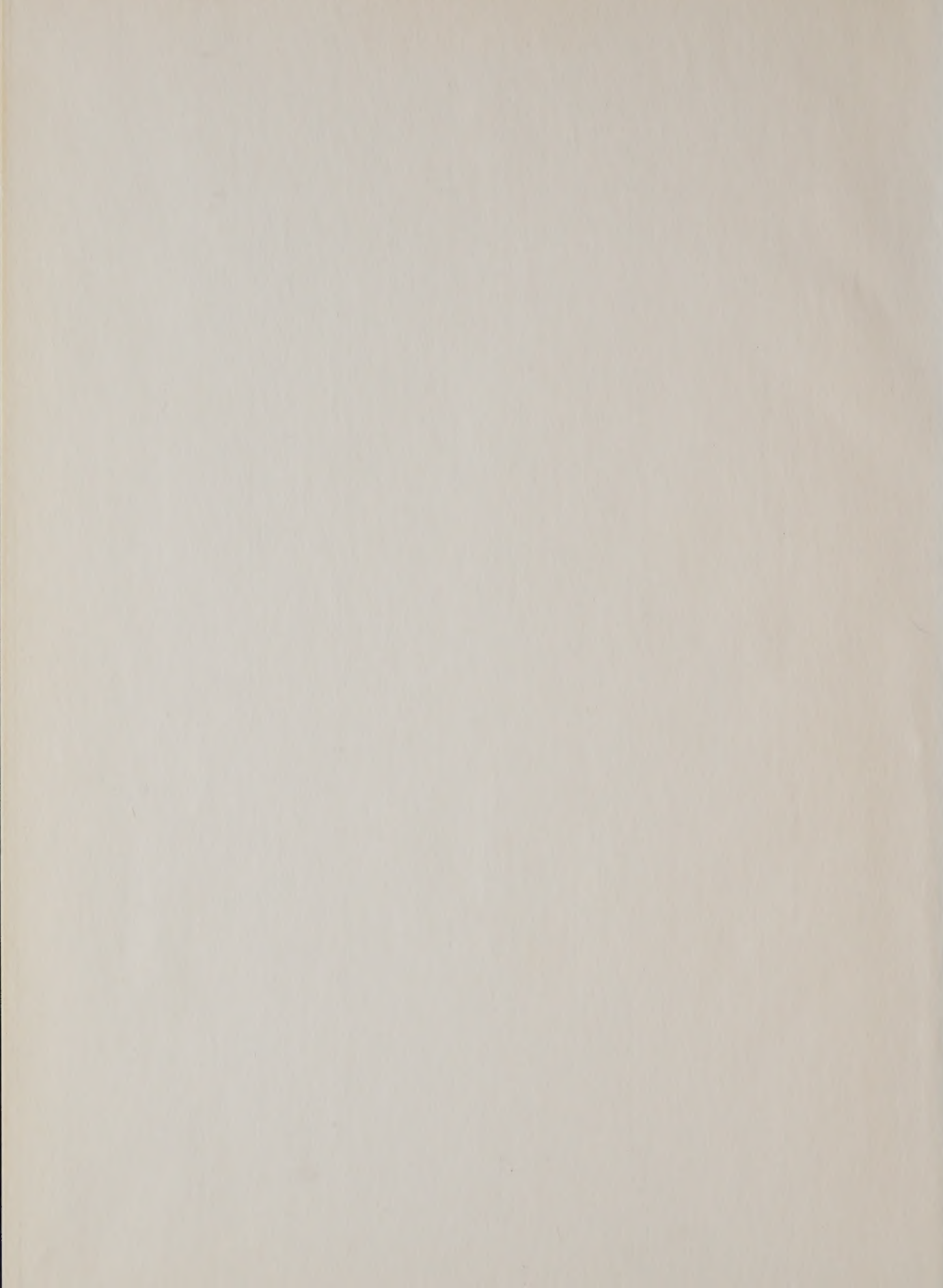
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF

# SEBRING

1899



1949

In connection with the celebration of Sebring's Fiftieth  
Anniversary Celebration



# SEBRING, OHIO

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1899-1949

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## A Brief History

of the Town, its Founders, Industries and Institutions  
published by

The Anniversary Committee

in connection with the celebration of its

50th



*ANNIVERSARY*

August 31 thru September 5

# 1949

# FOREWORD



The town of Sebring reaching its fiftieth birthday in the year 1949, and having made rather a remarkable showing in its achievements, it seemed proper that it should take fitting note of the fact and tell the world something of the Sebring story, while inviting former residents and friends to return home for at least a brief season for a look at its accomplishments and an opportunity to enjoy reminiscing and visiting with folks who like themselves have had a hand somewhere along the line in building a fine, typical and prosperous American community.

Hence Sebring's 50th Anniversary and Homecoming celebration extending from August 31 to September 5, to which everybody is invited.

The idea began to take shape early this year and was given the official backing and enthusiastic support of Mayor Wm. Unger and village officials.

Large committees were named to look after every detail of the celebration and guarantee a week of events that would strengthen the ties of Sebring to its own citizens and extend them to many others.

One of the committees named was an Historical committee, charged with the undertaking of producing and publishing for the anniversary a history of the town. This committee had a number of meetings and divided itself into groups to gather data concerning the town from its earliest days to the present. While this was new and strange business for most of the committee men and women, all turned to their tasks with a zest and much valuable history has been unearthed to be here recorded. The work having to be done hurriedly and by so many, it naturally will have its defects of many kinds. Facts are as nearly correct as could be ascertained, but many are still hidden. As a literary production it will lack the smoothness and cohesion that more time and experience might have furnished, but it embodies the results of much hard work and splendid cooperation, which entitles those who have striven at the job to much credit.

The book is submitted for your approval with the hope that you will derive pleasure and benefit from reading it. It is at least the beginning of the job of recording the town's annals and it is the hope of its authors that it may result in an organized effort to properly record the life of the town for those who shall in later years care to retrace the steps of its beginning and growth.

There will be many inaccuracies and omissions, of course, in this brief and hurried story of Sebring, but with this book as a beginning, corrections and additions can be made and later become part of the authentic history of the town and community.

The committee confesses its weaknesses, but makes no apology. It has done its best under the circumstances.



Left to right, first row — Lucille Albright McClure, Earl Sebring, Mary Beth Sebring Andrews, Lois Norris Cope, Louis Sebring McCalmont, Ruth Sebring Gray, Wilda Sebring, Ethel Sebring Rose, Nina Sebring Walker, Donald Albright, Thelma Sebring Heplinger, Kenneth Sebring. Second Row—Annie Sebring Murphy, Elsie Sebring Clarke, Helen Sebring Gahris, Hazel Sebring Cliff, Gertrude Norris Macrory, John H. Norris, Eva Sebring Norris, Emma Sebring Albright Barclay, Charles J. Albright, Mildred Albright Lindsay, Frank Sebring Jr., Mrs. Fred Sebring, Fred Sebring. Center Row—George E. Sebring, Sr., Elizabeth Larkin Sebring. Back Row—Oliver H. Sebring, Mrs. O. H. Sebring, W. L. Murphy, H. Orvil Sebring, Bert H. Sebring, Mrs. Bert Sebring, Mrs. E. H. Sebring, E. H. Sebring, George E. Sebring, Jr., Mrs. George Sebring, Jr., Mrs. Will H. Sebring, Will H. Sebring, Mrs. Frank A. Sebring, Frank A. Sebring, Sr., Missing from picture, Pearl Sebring Taylor and Charles L. Sebring. Picture taken approximately 50 years ago. The setting for the picture was the front of the original Gray farm house, later known as the Bandy house, located on West Ohio Avenue, and the first family home in Sebring. This site was recently purchased by the Village Council.



OLIVER H. SEBRING



Races — 1910



West Oregon Avenue



Harvest Home — 1912



Fifteenth Street



K. of P. Initiating Team



N. R. A. Parade



The Gray Farmhouse — 1899



Early Business Section



The Big Snow — 1910



Sebring Brothers take a trip



Ox Roast — 1908



Shorty Earl — 1905



Sebring Celebrates



# SEBRING FIRE DEPARTMENT - 1949



Top row, G. Goodballet, E. Simpson, G. Brimlow, B. Bratton, Art Eells, J. Meir, E. Eaton. 2nd row, G. Halverstadt, S. Trainer, W. Mercer, Russ Sanders, Richard Sanders, Ed Parr, D. Larkins, H. Johnston, R. Barnett, C. Mercer, J. Jordan. Front row, J. Watson, Chief; H. Vogt, Assistant; D. Cameron, Lieutenant.

# SEBRING POLICE DEPARTMENT - 1949



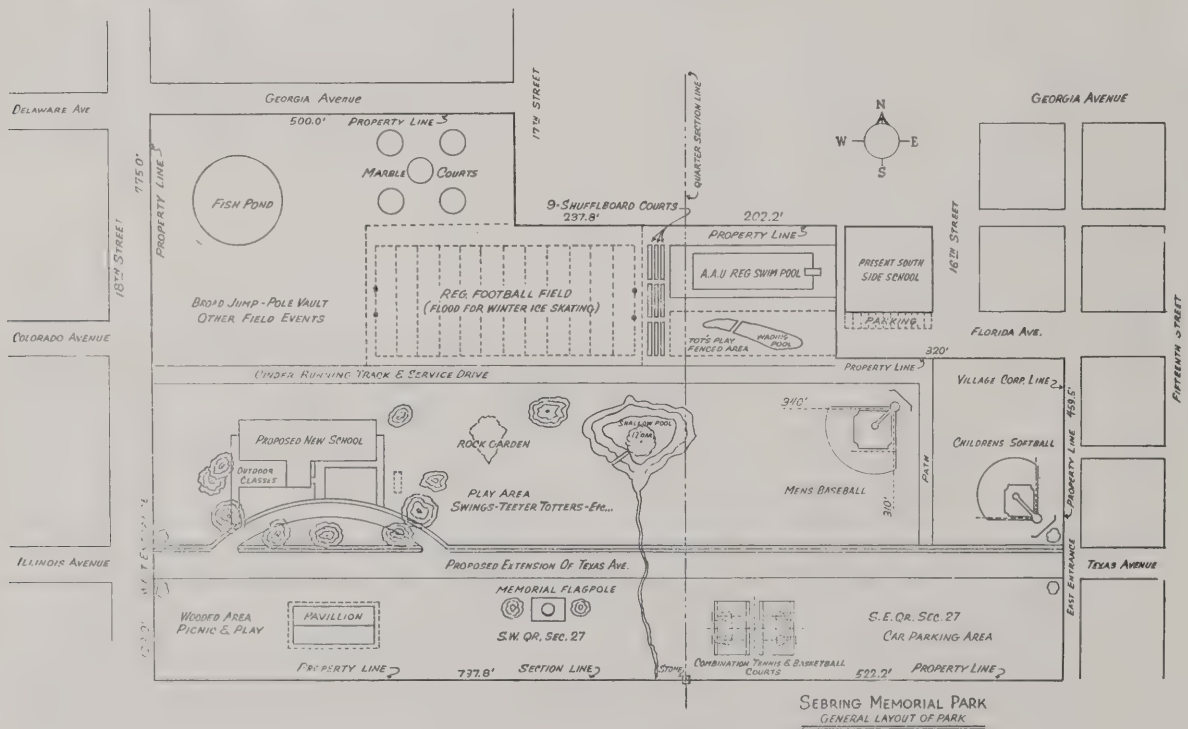
Left to right, Wilbert Parr, Paul Gednetz, James Marshall, Chief

## THE SEBRING STREET DEPARMENT - 1949



Left to right, Louie Davies, Frank Cartwright, Frank Cartwright, jr., Jack Reddy. Seated in front, Alex Burns

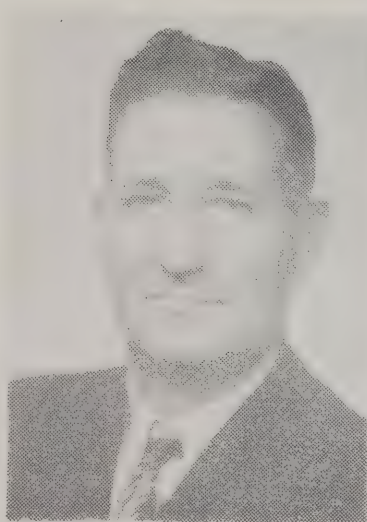
### SEBRING MEMORIAL PARK WHICH IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION



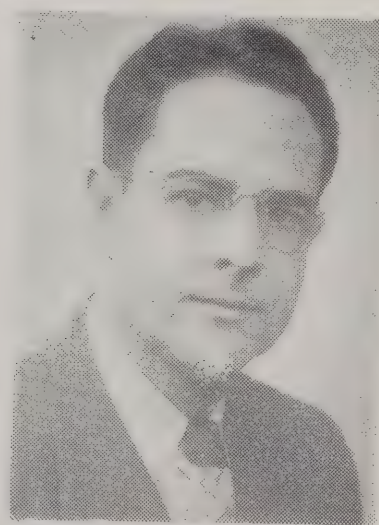
## These Men Help To Keep Sebring Running Smoothly --- 1949



**JAMES MARSHALL**  
Police Chief



**JOHN A. WATSON**  
Fire Chief



**FABER FAIRBANKS**  
Councilman



**JASON ZEPPERICK**  
Councilman



**W. G. SCHRECKENGOST**  
Councilman



**HENRY HUTMACHER**  
Councilman



**FRED MORROW**  
Councilman



**H. L. McCONNELL**  
Councilman

## A Group of Sebring Plant Executives --- 1949



**W. V. OLIVER**  
French Saxon China Co.



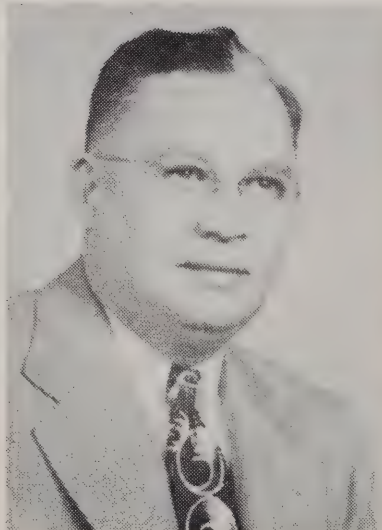
**B. L. MILLER**  
Royal China Inc.



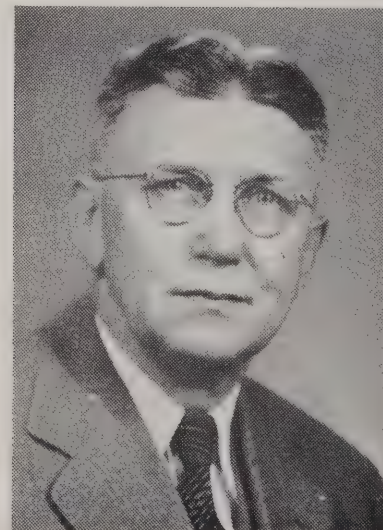
**W. U. PFAEFFLI**  
Strong Manufacturing Co.



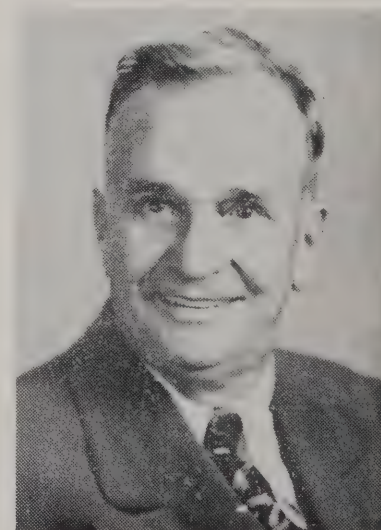
**WM. H. METZ**  
Strong Manufacturing Co.



**JAMES G. EARDLEY**  
Spaulding China, Inc.



**T. F. SHAFFER**  
Strong Manufacturing Co.



**GEORGE STANFORD**  
Stanford Pottery, Inc.

## BEFORE SEBRING WAS

Before the year 1898 a number of more or less prosperous farmers were occupying the tracts of land lying from four to five miles east of Alliance, Ohio, and between that city and Beloit. None of them had visions of the land on which they lived ever being anything else but farm land. Much of it was lowland and not too desirable without extensive draining.

For historical purposes it may be said that Stephen and Lizzie Gray had a home located on what has become West Ohio avenue, containing the lots just west of the Sebring Motor Company garage, occupied at one time by the L. A. Bandy home. The Gray farm extended east to about where Fourteenth street is located and west to near Seventeenth street.

The Elizabeth Taylor farm adjoined the Gray farm on the east, extending east to the present Twelfth street. North and south it covered the tract from Ohio Avenue to the railroad.

Wm. F. and Sarah Johnson's home was on the present New York avenue, now owned by Bertha Hambleton. It extended from Johnson road on the west to Sixteenth street on the east, and from Ohio avenue on the east to the alley south of Texas avenue. Of course all streets and alleys referred to have been laid out later. The Pennsylvania railroad ran through this farm and a cattle path passed under the railroad connecting the pasture fields. Trains stopped night and morning at Johnson crossing to pick up and unload passengers.

The Jacob and Margaret Biery farm extended from the east side of Nineteenth street to Johnson road, and from Ohio avenue to the north side of the "Annie" railroad switch crossing on Johnson road, where the county garage now stands.

Caroline Thompson's farm fitted in between Eighteenth and Nineteenth streets on the east and west and Ohio avenue and the section line on the south and north. Mrs. Thompson moved to a place on Alliance Sebring road, where she died in

1938 at the age of 92. The house was moved from the site of the Bert Briggs home on Ohio avenue, built by Ray Cliff, to Eighteenth street and is now the O. D. Goodman home.

The Erskine Allison farm extended from about where the Parr home stands, on East Ohio avenue, to the east line of the Alvin Leasure property and from Ohio avenue on the south to the section line. The home was a brick house west of the present Methodist Church.

The Jacob and Anna Aellig farm extended from the Allison farm approximately to Twelfth street.

The John T. and Rebecca Mather farm was bounded on the south by Ohio avenue and east and west extended from the Crutchley farm to Johnson road.

Jesse Mather's farm started at the location of Ohio avenue on the north, reached to the railroad, and east and west from Johnson road to the Tombaugh farm.

The David Pickett farm extended from the Taylor farm on the south to the railroad, and from the Johnson road to the Heacock farm. The southern part is now the Sebring camp grounds.

The I. B. and Alferetta Heacock farm started at the alley south of Texas avenue and extended south to the Joshua and Phoebe Stanley farm on South Fifteenth street. On the west it cut across about the middle of the present Limoges China Co. property and extended to the eastern boundary of the J. D. Walker farm, including all of the Fifteenth street extension recently purchased and subdivided by Jack Bryarly.

All of these farms were the homes of happy families, most of them of good size, many of the members of which have continued to live in the vicinity of Sebring and have taken an active part in the life of the new community. Some have moved elsewhere and made valuable contributions to the life of other communities.

## THEN CAME THE SEBRINGS

In the year 1898 other eyes became centered on the tract of land covered by these farms. Down at East Liverpool, Ohio, lived the family of George E. and Elizabeth Larkins Sebring, a very unusual family of six restless, ambitious, stirring boys and two girls.

The Sebring boys had been breaking into the potting trade as craftsmen and in a small way as manufacturers. There were George E., Oliver H., Frank A., Evis H., Fred and William and two sisters, Mrs. Eva Norris and Mrs. Charles Albright. The boys were all operative potters, except Frank A., who had chosen to try out the grocery business in East Liverpool.

The boys had acquired a taste of dinnerware manufacture by purchasing a small one-kiln plant in Liverpool, employing ten men, later going into the business on a larger scale at East Palestine. But the family had ambitions extending beyond operating small second-hand potteries. They visioned building a pottery center of their own, where they would not be fenced in, where expansion would be limited only by their ability and enterprise. They wanted to build not only potteries but a town, one that would bear the name of Sebring and stand as a memorial to the name and their ideals. They began casting about for a suitable site for such a town, which must be

favorably located for business, near a sufficient supply of water, having advantageous railroad and trolley conditions, or possibilities; in a word it must be the seat of future industries capable of making a living and suitable for homes of happy, busy and contented people.

The Sebring boys picked as their site the lands occupied by the farmers we have listed. This area seemed to fill the bill. The way these self-made boys secured the necessary finances is a story in itself, but they did, and lost no time in getting into action. Quietly and as secretly as possible options were obtained on the various farms, for what purpose nobody but the Sebrings knew. Suddenly it was done and they were ready to go.

The following from excerpts in the Alliance papers give the background and atmosphere of the days that followed:

### HOW OTHERS LOOKED AT THE TALK OF THE NEW TOWN

April 19, 1898

Members of the Sebring family visited Alliance again today and repeated their plans to start a new town just to the east of this city. Negotiations for the purchase of the necessary land are already under way and the actual construction work is scheduled to start sometime in the near future. A spokesman for the family estimated that there would be about 500 families in the community by next fall, and more than 1200 in a year. He added that the town would have about 10,000 residents within two years. Pottery-making will be the main industry in the town, to be called Sebring, and four such plants are already planned for. Local residents expressed some doubt about the sincerity of the planners, or the possibility that any new community would ever spring up between Alliance and Beloit. If it does, however, officials of the proposed electric railway said they would relocate their line between Alliance and Salem to accomodate residents of the town.

\* \* \* \*

April 20, 1898

Members of the Sebring family announced in Alliance today that they have completed negotiations for the purchase of the necessary land to start their new community east of Alliance, and will make the actual transaction soon. Frank A. Sebring, Oliver H. Sebring, George A. Smith and Benjamin Haines, all of East Liverpool, were in this area today making surveys of the exact location of the town with engineers from Pittsburgh.

A total of 150 persons will be employed when the first construction is started.

April 25, 1898

The Sebring Land Company was incorporated in Colmubus yesterday for the sum of \$50,000.00 and since it bears the same name as the Sebring Brothers of East Liverpool, who are forming the town east of Alliance, it is undoubtedly the same organization.

Right now surveyors are laying out the various tracts in the land where the town will be built and quite a bit of activity has been noted by those passing by. The first building to be erected will be a pottery, and a great quantity of lumber has already been brought in for that construction. At the same time, one of the founding brothers, George E. Sebring, has announced that he will soon have workmen busy putting a new residence up. The cost of the home has been set at about \$8,000.00.

Both railroad and telephone company officials have been conferring with the owners and planners of the new city about securing services there. Alliance telephone officials said that the new town would soon be connected by long distance with this city.

In the editorial columns of today's Review the editors commented that "That great pottery project—or whatever it may be—which current rumor says will be located near Beloit, seems to be assuming a tangible form. We hope the SCHEME may be realized."

\* \* \* \*

April 28, 1898

In the vicinity of the new town to be called Sebring, members of that family have begun the actual purchase of land they previously optioned, thus providing proof of the good faith of the planners. It is reported that a price of \$50.00 an acre was paid for the S. D. Gray farm. Arrangements for other plots are going on right now and purchases will follow shortly. Alliance business men are planning now to open branch establishments in the new Eldorado.

\* \* \* \*

May 3, 1898

The only thing now holding back the actual construction of buildings in the new town of Sebring, just east of Alliance, is the arrival of building materials. The business portion of the village is now planned and staked out, and as soon as bricks and lumber and other materials arrive actual construction will begin.

About 50 tenement homes are planned for among the first projects, along with two large potteries and palatial home for George E. Sebring, one of the founders, in the suburbs. It has also been reported that the deadline for completing land purchases under the existing options is next Friday. In order to make the limit, the land buying transactions are now moving forward very rapidly.

May 6, 1898

The options for purchasing land for the new village of Sebring ran out today—and the deadline found almost every bit of earth to be included in the town owned by the Sebring Land Company. Just about every foot of ground, it is said, was purchased by the town's original founders—and at a handsome price in most cases. The only reported trouble occurred when William Johnson first sold his entire farm, and then decided to keep the plot on which his house was located. After a heated argument the Land Company resold him the plot—but at a good round sum.

\* \* \* \*

May 9, 1898

The new town to be built east of Alliance has now officially been named—it will be called SEBRING. The Pennsylvania Railroad is making arrangements now for a passenger and freight station and will soon construct private sidings. The town was first planned by six brothers and two sisters bearing the name of the village. George E. Sebring, president of the Land Company, today is buying up the last of the land and has closed a deal with the J. T. Weybrecht Lumber Company for delivery as soon as possible of lumber for the principal buildings. It is said that construction will begin the latter part of this week.

(This is the day the name was first announced.)

\* \* \* \*

May 19, 1898

The first railroad siding in Sebring was completed today - and the very first train to pass through the new town has just completed the trip. The many enthusiastic backers of the village are quite pleased at the progress. Another siding will be started soon, keeping up the rapid pace of building.

\* \* \* \*

May 25, 1898

Though the village of Sebring may not now be no more than a tract of pasture land, it soon will be changed considerably.

Construction was begun today of a big boarding house which will accommodate 100 men when it is completed. Several East Palestine parties are the owners of the new building, and already have ordered 600,000 brick from the Youngstown Brick Company, located just east of Beloit. A large quantity of stone has also been purchased for delivery in Sebring, and will be used in building the foundation for the two potteries which will soon be erected.

As an indication of the great building boom soon to be started, there are right now on the railroad siding 40 carloads of construction materials waiting to be unloaded and put into the new building.

May 27, 1898

A third story in today's Review found the editor eating humble pie—and backing down on his previous statements about the rapidly rising town of Sebring.

It was noted that at first it was believed that wind was the principal element of the sounding proclamations that were put forth on the new town. However, it is now evident that the men behind the village mean business.

Steps should be taken at once, said the editor, to assure close cooperation between the new community and Alliance. The first of such steps would be the construction of a good road. A wagon road, which would suffice for the present, could be easily constructed because the country between the two spots is mostly level. It ought to be possible at little expense—but it should be done regardless of the cost. The editor concluded—we don't know who's job such a project would be—but whose ever it is should get busy at once—there is no question of its importance.

\* \* \* \*

Progress down in Sebring has been slowed up considerably the last few days by the great quantities of rain that have fallen.

The land there is flat and has no drainage. Consequently, the mud and bad roads are hindering the delivery of building materials and actual building work itself. However, Sebring need not worry about being built in a day, one observer remarked, since Rome wasn't either.

The erection of a hotel has already been started, and it is supposed to be a fine large structure. The boarding house that was completed last week is now receiving a nice coat of paint.

\* \* \* \*

June 3, 1898

There are reports circulating in Alliance today that a glass factory will be added to the industries to go up in the new town of Sebring. However, these statements have not been verified.

The reports claim that the owners of the company demanded of the Sebring founders a total of \$16,000.00 and grants of enough land to build a factory. The story goes on to say that the plant will be erected soon and will employ 1,000 men. However, it does not seem logical for the Sebring family to be willing to give out \$16,000.00 for another plant, and the Review today expressed a great deal of skepticism about the rumors.

\* \* \* \*

June 9, 1898

A new newspaper made its first appearance in Sebring today. It was published at the pottery plant, and is known as the "Sebring News." L. M. Stanley is the editor. Mr. Stanley is well-known throughout this area, and his ability in the literary field is favorably recognized by the Review readers, who have seen his work many times.

Mr. Stanley is most noted for his poetry, which is very excellent. It has been printed many times in the Review. The new Sebring paper is currently going to press in Beloit, but will soon move to new headquarters in Sebring.

\* \* \* \*

June 10, 1898

Contracts were let today for the home of George E. Sebring in the new town of the same name. The structure will be the finest in the town, and possibly in this section of the state. Reports tell that the home will cost at least \$12,000.00 and that East Palestine firms won the contracts. Work is scheduled to start at once. In the meantime, another contract for the construction of 50 homes at \$1,000.00 each is now under negotiation.

Such were the stories of the early days of Sebring, which has become the dream-come-true of a really remarkable family of typical American boys and girls. The Sebrings were dreamers, yes; but so was Joseph of Biblical times. Like Joseph, when the need came, they had the "corn."

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#### VILLAGE OFFICIALS - Through the Years

The following is a list of the men who have served Sebring in the capacity of mayor, clerk and marshal since the year 1900:

1900, A. E. Albright, mayor; F. S. Haggart and C. McCully, clerk; M. F. Cochran, marshal--1902, Joe Gibbins, Charles McCully, James Brown, Sr.; 1904, Joe Gibbins, Walter Crewson, James Brown, Sr.; 1906, Charles Dorff, Walter Crewson, James Brown, Sr.; 1908, R. J. Jones, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1910, R. J. Jones, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1912, R. J. Jones, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1914, J. A. Freed, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1915, A. J. Eden, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1916, Harry McMaster, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1918, Harry McMaster, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1919, Fred Mills, Hary Jenkins, Charles Baumgartner; 1920, Guy Mushrush, W. E. Thompson and Homer Albaugh, Charles Baumgartner; 1922, Guy Mushrush, James Eardley, Charles Baumgartner; 1924; A. S. Lindsay, James Eardley, Charles Baumgartner; 1926, E. F. Harmon, James Elliott, Charles Baumgartner; 1928, E. F. Harmon, James Elliott, Charles Baumgartner; 1930, E. F. Harmon, James Elliott, Charles Baumgartner; 1932, E. F. Harmon, James Elliott, George Wilcoxon; 1934, F. M. Howell, John Reddy, Alva Tetlow; 1936, F. M. Howell, John Reddy, Alva Tetlow; 1938, E. F. Harmon, F. G. Mills, James Brown; 1940, L. A. Bandy, F. G. Mills, James Brown; 1942, L. A. Bandy, Maurice Coffman, George Wilcoxon; 1943, Phil Schroeder, Maurice Coffman, Ralph Dunlap; 1944, E. F. Harmon, Maurice Coffman, James Marshall; 1946,

Sebring grew rapidly, its plants, its business section, its schools, its churches, its homes, its spirit. In the days following the turn of the century, Sebring was Sebring and for Sebring. The town even had "Sebring" time, which was East Liverpool and Pittsburgh time rather than the standard time in use all around it in Ohio.

The Sebrings playfully boasted that it would be only a matter of time until Alliance would be a suburb of Sebring.

Sports were given much attention in the early days and Sebring would fight like a bunch of wildcats for its baseball and football teams.

Growing apace with the town's industries were its business houses, schools, churches, utilities, clubs, fraternities and sports. All of these angles will be covered in the following pages which record the growth of a town in a half century from farm lands to a little city of around 5,000 population, and the employment and trading center of other thousands who live nearby and work, trade and spend much of the time in what the early boosters were pleased to call "The Town Worth While,--SEBRING.

E. F. Harmon, Maurice Coffman, James Marshall; 1948, William Unger, Paul McBride and Edward Seitz, James Marshall.

---O---

#### MRS BURRIS REMEMBERS "WHEN"

Mrs. Luva Burris, 126 East Indiana avenue, can recall very clearly fifty years ago, as she lived with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, and brothers, William and Harry, on what is now known as North Johnson road, at the center of Smith township. Her father had been to the mill, going by a wagon drawn by two horses, and when he returned that evening told that neighbors all around had sold their farms, but no one seemed to know just what was going to happen. But at once the "Oliver China Co." was built and a big dance was held in the pottery before they started to work, people coming from as far as East Liverpool. They came by train, bringing a basket picnic with them. The rest of the place was nothing but mud.

The first church service was held in an old building, at the corner of Oregon avenue and 15th street, and her family, as well as the rest of the farmers, came in to church. The family was also here at the dedication service of the new Methodist church structure.

Then the elder Thomases bought on West Indiana avenue and the Burrises bought on East Indiana avenue, which would be forty-four years ago. Mrs. Burris is still living at the same place and her two daughters, Mrs. Elmer Elliott and Mrs. James Moody, of McDonald, Ohio, can recall many changes which have taken place since their arrival in Sebring.

## SCHOOL SYSTEM

The original plan for the development of Sebring included a system of public education. However, before the public school system began operation, a private school for the children of Frank Sebring and of his brothers was conducted in a two-room building at the corner of Maryland avenue and Fifteenth street by Miss Laura Crew, now Mrs. W. K. Talbott, of Damascus.

The first public school was opened in 1900 in the "Gray Barn," a one-room structure housing grades one to eight, on the southwest corner of Oregon avenue and Fifteenth street. Miss Anna Begue was the teacher in this school.

The following year the Ohio avenue building was erected at a cost of \$6,000.00, and a three-year high school was started, with an enrollment of ten, and Marshall Cox as principal and only high school teacher. The grade teachers were Miss Carrie Miller, who now lives in Bergholz; Miss Mabel Gaunt, and Miss Grace Sweinheart. The first Board of Education was composed of F. A. Sebring, president and treasurer; W. C. McIntosh, clerk; Joe Ollman, William Tritt, James Tritt, James Brown, and Harvey Hazlett. Mr. Ballantyne was the custodian. First graduating class in 1904 included Gertrude Beggs, Gladys Lamborn, Ella B. Larkins, and Earl McIntosh.

For some time, during 1903 and subsequently, two grades were taught in the city hall and a first and second grade school building was located near the site of the Lincoln school at Seventeenth street and Indiana avenue, with Miss Gertrude Beggs and Miss Goff as the first teachers. This was a frame building erected in 1904 at a cost of \$1,450.00.

The Lincoln building, which was first used as a high school, was constructed in 1909 at a cost of \$20,000.00. The South Side and McKinley buildings were erected in 1914. Mrs. Fred Shaffer was the first principal in the McKinley building, which at that time was used as an elementary school. It has been used as a high school since 1924 and has been improved by many additions—

an auditorium and extra rooms in 1924 at a cost of \$120,000.00, and in 1937 a gymnasium and additional class rooms and office were added at a cost of \$85,000.00. Government participation in costs through the media of WPA and PWA was secured, and a very fine athletic field and stadium was added to the school property shortly after the building of the gymnasium. Later the athletic field was equipped with flood lights, which made night games possible and put football really on a sound business basis here.

In 1914 a first grade, or four year, high school charter was granted and in 1941 a six-year high school charter was granted by the state department of education. In 1940 a public kindergarten was added to the system. W. G. Finch, John Maurer, W. G. Cope, R. G. Alber, Ralph Ling, S. H. Pollock, and J. M. Badertscher, the present superintendent, have served as administrative heads of the Sebring public schools.

Sebring schools are now housed in three buildings—the McKinley building, which includes a six-year high school, two rooms of elementary pupils, grades one to three, and a kindergarten room; The Lincoln building, which houses six grades; and the South Side, which has four. The present high school enrollment is 436, grades one to six, 478; kindergarten, 69, making a total enrollment of 983. There are 35 teachers in the system, five full time and one half-time janitor.

The present Board of Education, which spends many hours looking after the interests of the boys and girls of Sebring includes George Gottschall, president; Frank Tate, vice president; Thomas Barclay, Frank Herman, W. J. Dimit, and F. G. Mills, clerk.

Plans are now under way to complete a new elementary building on the south side at a cost of \$150,000.00. Ground was broken for the project on July 18. The site for the new school is an eighteen acre tract donated by the Frank A. Sebring heirs. The new building is to be known as the Frank A. Sebring elementary school and will house six grades and a kindergarten.

## WATER

One of the "musts" in any attempt to start a new town is good water and a good supply. Sebring, nestling in the curves of the Mahoning river, has always had an adequate supply of water available or near at hand. Its problem has been getting the water into town and distributing it to the consumers. When the town was first started water was secured from wells drilled back of the Oliver China Co., now Royal China Inc. After five years had elapsed and the need for water became greater, arrangements were made with the Mellon Company, of Pittsburgh, who supplied the village with water from 1903 to 1919. In 1919 the pumping station was purchased from

the Mellon Company at a cost of \$96,000. Bonds were sold at 4½ percent interest. The last bonds, amounting to \$18,000 plus interest, were paid off in 1948.

The first waterworks board was appointed by the city council, consisting of F. D. Shewell, Tom Strong and W. B. Stevenson, serving from January 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919. The board appointed A. J. Eden as first clerk and superintendent. E. F. Zurbrugg and A. Krahling were the first engineers.

In July, 1922, bonds were issued for the construction of a disposal plant, at a cost of \$72,000.

In 1923, M. E. Hess, Alliance chemist, was employed to serve as chemist at the new pumping station, which was to be built.

In October, 1928, a second water tank was built by the Reeves Bros., of Alliance, at a cost of \$6,600.

Many of Sebring's prominent citizens have served as members of the waterworks board, or board of public affairs, as superintendent of waterworks and sewage and disposal plants, and as clerk of the board. Much time and thought and a great deal of hard manual work have characterized their contribution to this important phase of the village's welfare.

The present board is comprised of Philip A. Schroeder, Waldo Hitchcock and James Simpson. Miss Kathryn Braidic is clerk and H. J. Vogt superintendent.

It might be interesting to know something of the plan or layout of the water lines in Sebring, which is as follows, according to information furnished:

We were furnished water at first by a 6-inch line, which ran from the standpipe on Texas avenue diagonally to the corner of the French China Company plant. Later on a 10-inch line was laid from the standpipes. It ran down 21st street (or Johnson road) to California avenue, down 19th street and hooked on to the 6-inch line, then across town. (6-inch line running across town.) Later on a 12-inch line was laid from the standpipes to corner of 20th street and Texas avenue, and from the corner of 20th street and Georgia avenue to corner of Georgia and 18th street, which hooked on to a 6-inch line that went out 18th street and tapped on to the one at the corner of California avenue and 18th street. An 8-inch line was tapped on to the 12-inch line on the corner of 18th street and Georgia avenue, then on to 15th street and Georgia avenue. An 8-inch line was extended later from the corner of California avenue and 21st street to the 6-inch line on Oregon and Ohio avenues. In October, 1948, a 6-inch line was laid from 20th street and Texas avenue to 15th street.

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## THE TELEPHONE

From an inauspicious beginning which passing time has relegated to obscurity, Sebring's telephone system today has risen to a place of prominence in the community's everyday business and social activity.

One of the earliest recorded pieces of information on Sebring's early telephone history available in the files of The Ohio Bell Telephone Company, is a clipping from the old Sebring News, dated October 3, 1901. This clipping deals with an ordinance passed by village council which gave authority to the Central Union Telephone Company, the company operating the Sebring exchange at that time, for the placing of poles and wires along the community's streets and alleys. The ordinance was published over the signatures of F. S. Haggart, clerk, and A. E. Albright, mayor.

Another aging document relating to Sebring's telephone days in the early 1900's was also turned up in the Ohio Bell's files. The document is a carbon copy of a lease, signed by F. A. Sebring, party of the first part, and the Central Union Telephone Company, party of the second part, for a year's rental of two front rooms, second floor, in building on Lot No. 141, east side of Fifteenth street, known as the Erskine building.

The lease ran for a period of one year from December, 1901, to December, 1902, with renewal

options for additional one year periods if wanted. Total yearly rent amounted to the sum of \$108.00, or nine dollars per month.

Early records of telephones in service in Sebring are not available, but it is known from Ohio Bell records that in 1924 there was a total of 350 instruments operating in the community. This figure increases to over 500 by 1930 and then nose-dived during the depression years to 300 in 1935.

By the middle of 1940, Sebring's telephones had climbed to nearly 600 and by the end of the war to nearly 1,000. Today there is a total of 1,740 telephones in operation here, a surprising jump of nearly 400 per cent in the past quarter-century.

To better serve the telephone needs of its Sebring customers, the Ohio Bell company in August, 1937, put a new dial exchange into operation, marking the completion of a nearly \$35,000 improvement project. At this time there were less than 400 telephones in Sebring.

Since that time the company has made several additions to equipment, enlarged the exchange building and in 1947 completed installation of an entirely new \$65,000 dial system that was more adaptable to Sebring's constantly growing telephone total.

# HISTORY OF THE LIGHT AND POWER INDUSTRY

In order to start this story with the proper background, it is necessary to go back to the time when George E. Sebring was a resident of East Palestine. In 1895 he heard that this city was soon to have an electric plant so he got in touch with Mr. S. E. McKee, who had previously wired his house for a burglar alarm system. Mr. S. E. McKee was the father of F. W. McKee, president of Salem China Co. Mr. McKee was engaged to proceed immediately with the wiring of the Sebring home in East Palestine so that it would be the first to have electric lighting.

When the town of Sebring was planned in the fall of 1898, Mr. Sebring came to "Mack" as he called him and told him that he wanted him to become a citizen of the new town and his first job would be to wire the Sebring home and the Oliver China Company — the first pottery built, later to become the E. H. Sebring China Co., and now Royal China Inc.

Trains did not stop at Sebring yet, so George told Mack that he would have Jim Brown meet him at Beloit with the surrey on a certain date.

A steam engine driven electric generator was installed adjoining the boiler room of the Oliver China Company and a well was drilled nearby to furnish a water supply for the community. From experience, rather than by chemical analysis, people soon learned that magnesia was quite a prominent chemical in the water. Some people sought to avoid its effects by drinking soda pop, etc., not realizing that the coffee and tea served at the table would give them considerably more than their optimum requirement of this important - and potent - mineral.

In these early days electricity was thought of only in terms of light, so the power house only started up when it commenced to get dark. About 11 o'clock it was shut down for the night. That was before the day of automatic voltage regulators and consequently as the load on the generator became lighter, as people turned off lights and went to bed, the remaining lights became progressively brighter - and hotter.

If anything inflammable was left in contact with these old 16 candle power, carbon filament lamps, you could expect a fire. Legend has it that one enterprising merchant took advantage of this fact to wrap an overcoat around one of the bulbs when he closed for the evening. An alert volunteer fire department got there during the smoking period.

As the pottery business became more demanding on the time of the Sebring family, they offered the power plant for sale. In 1910 favorable terms were arranged with George's friend, Mack, for the purchase of the electric system. A substation was soon erected adjoining the Stark Electric

Company right-of-way on California Avenue and arrangements were made for the McKee Light and Power Company to purchase its electric requirements from the Stark Electric Company, thereby enabling the residents of Sebring to enjoy electric service 24 hours per day.

At that time the Stark Electric Company could furnish only 25 cycle single phase service, which was somewhat annoying due to the noticeable flicker, but nevertheless it opened up the way for the use of vacuum cleaners and many other household labor saving devices that were to follow.

The Gem Clay Forming Company was the first plant to use electric power exclusively. A heavy line was run from the 550 volt trolley feeder of the Stark Electric Company to a large direct current motor installed to operate their line shaft. During a serious fire at their plant, firemen were being knocked right and left as the streams from the fire hose came into contact with the electric line. The operators at the Lake Park generating station thought that a limb from a tree had fallen across the line and if they gave it enough "juice" it would burn itself clear. They tied the circuit breaker down so it could not trip. In the meantime a couple of volunteers got a hack saw and climbed up on the Sebring Cooperage Company building to cut the line. All went well, although the tar was dropping steadily from the overheated wires, until the last strand was severed. The electric arc that immediately developed, with the accompanying explosion put any Fourth-of-July firecracker to shame. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt, and the fire fighters were able to go ahead without being knocked down every few moments.

About 1912 the first ornamental street lights were installed on Fifteenth Street. Meters were not installed until the following year. Prior to that a flat charge was made for each light that was installed. Thus a light that was used infrequently cost the same as one used continuously. When meters were installed to correct this inequity a minimum charge of one dollar was made. If, however, you were willing to accept a four dollar minimum charge, you could have a flat rate of four cents per kilowatt hour.

Every house in Sebring was wired, since gas was not available in the early years. Much of the framing of the houses was with green lumber cut locally. The maple, in particular, was very hard and to drive a nail in it or to bore a hole required both skill and persistence of the first order.

In June, 1917, the McKee Light and Power Company sold its franchise and distribution system to the Alliance Gas and Power Company, which became a part of the Ohio Public Service

Company in 1921. Construction was started immediately on a new line from the Alliance generating station at Freedom and Patterson street to Sebring and a new substation was erected on California avenue to supply the citizens of Sebring with 60 cycle, three phase service. A considerable further expenditure was made at this time by the electric company to change all household appliances as necessary for operation on the higher frequency.

This marked another important step forward in the quality of electric service furnished this community. Not only was the disagreeable flicker eliminated from the electric lights, but perhaps of greater importance was the fact that three phase service now made possible a greatly expanded use of electricity by the industries. Until now many of the industrial plants had purchased their electric requirements for lighting and some motor loads. Their principal power requirements, however, were supplied by steam engines connected to line shafts. These engines were shut down and electric motors installed as the economics and advantages of purchased electric service became apparent.

In 1922 the Stark Electric Company, which previously had been a street and interurban railway operation, decided to enter into competition with the Ohio Public Service Company. In 1926 they formed the Alliance Power Company and by

#### FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

It was evident, once Sebring was launched, that the tremendous building program instituted in the thriving community would need financial help. Natural pride in the new undertaking called for local organization, with no outside aid, to handle the situation. Consequently, among the early incorporations was Sebring's first financial institution, known as The Buckeye Building and Loan Association. The original Capital Stock of \$100,000.00 was subscribed immediately and the association received its charter in the fall of 1899. F. A. Sebring became the first president and W. H. Sebring secretary.

Immediate success attended the new venture, both from the standpoint of borrower and investor. Very little of the early construction in the community was completed without the aid of its financing.

Stock shares, yielding 6% per annum payable semi-annually, were sold to the investor. Especially interesting to the small investor was the running stock or pass-book savings plan—paying the same rate of interest and immediately convertible to shares of stock when \$100.00 had been accumulated.

While this type of organization was not new or peculiar only to Sebring, it was especially attractive to all since all lending was secured by real estate first mortgages in a growing community where values were increasing daily.

offering considerably lower rates than those of the existing company, they were successful in obtaining practically all of the industrial load in Sebring. Due to the fact that their rates did not enable them to obtain a sufficient return to adequately cover all costs of the business, this company soon ran into financial difficulties, eventually went into receivership in 1932 and in 1937 was purchased by the Ohio Public Service Company at sheriff's sale.

In order to provide greater capacity for the increasing demands of the community and more dependable service, the Georgia Avenue substation on Sixteenth Street was erected this same year. Because of the importance of continuous, uninterrupted service to the industries, a considerable expenditure was made by the electric company two years later rebuilding one of the 23,000 volt lines to Sebring and installing automatic throw-over switches so that if one source of power should fail the second line would take over immediately.

Since the war the Georgia Avenue substation has been rebuilt to improve its facilities and a substantial amount of money has been spent rebuilding various portions of the electric system within the city so that adequate, dependable service can be provided to all consumers to enable them to profit fully from the advantages of electric living in the home, store, and factory.

No separate offices were maintained in the beginning and all business at the inception was handled by the Sebring Land Company. However, at almost the same time the Citizens Banking Company was chartered and from this period all transactions were made in the banking room and by the bank employees.

Capitalization of the new State Bank was \$25,000.00 and the original banking room was in the building now occupied by a beauty shop at 255 North 15th Street. Original officers included O. H. Sebring, president, and W. L. Murphy, cashier, with James Harris as bookkeeper.

The combination of two financial institutions doing business over the same counters truly reflected the thriving conditions of the community.

In 1903, capitalization of the Building and Loan was increased to \$300,000.00 and E. M. Stanley became its secretary as well as assistant cashier of the bank.

In the space of only a few years, quarters became cramped, but it was not until May, 1911, that the present location of The First National bank was purchased and construction begun on the banking room and office building now standing.

Both organizations moved to the new room in the fall of 1912 and a new era of prosperity descended on each during the teens. In 1919 the Buckeye Building and Loan was recapitalized at \$600,000.00 and the Citizens Banking Company

at \$50,000.00. Assets of the former were now hovering around the million mark and about this time examiners of both institutions began to insist on the separation of the two. Both had become of age along with the new community and reflection brings to mind the names of Walter Harlan, A. J. Stroup, F. D. Shewell, B. H. Morris, J. A. McBain, S. T. Eardley, Captain J. C. Hartzell, Henry Heisler, H. R. Ewing, E. M. Stanley, W. L. Murphy and the Sebring brothers. These, along with numerous others, had guided both financial institutions to positions of relative strength in the growth of the town and installed respectful confidence in the minds of its citizens.

In 1925 the Buckeye Building and Loan office was moved from the banking room to a new location at 287 North 15th street and shortly afterwards the Citizens Banking Company underwent reorganization—the Sebring brothers selling their stock holdings to a group of Sebring and Alliance business men. E. M. Stanley, as secretary, moved with the Building and Loan; W. L. Murphy left the bank to go with the Sebring Manufacturing Corporation and later with the American Chinaware Corporation; and Wayne Seiple came to the bank as cashier.

The crash of 1929 and the ensuing depression had its effect on both institutions. On October 7, 1931, the closing of the Citizens Banking Company was a terrific blow to the community. This was compounded by having all deposits of the Building and Loan, especially money deposited to meet November 1st interest payments swept away over night. However, by supreme effort, enough cash was accumulated by the due date to pay on the basis of 4% per annum.

The Citizens Banking Company, as such, never reopened.

During these depression years the Buckeye Building and Loan Association naturally was forced to curtail withdrawals to some extent. Borrowers, by necessity, were unable to meet their obligations, thereby creating a condition of financial stagnation for the institution. Even under these conditions foreclosures remained at a minimum and in no case in which any effort was made by the borrower to retain his property was any extra hardship placed in his way.

In order to return to a liquid condition the

board of directors voted to Federalize the Association and by the fall of 1937 all arrangements had been completed and the final consummation was at hand, when the secretary, E. M. Stanley, passed away following a heart attack. A new secretary, suitable to Federal officers and the board of directors alike could not be agreed upon, and for some months the organization floundered like a ship without a rudder.

The Midland Savings and Loan Association, of Alliance, became interested in the situation and in the spring of 1938 a Federal consolidation, suitable to all concerned, was established with offices in both Sebring and Alliance. It was known as The Midland-Buckeye Federal Savings and Loan Association, with J. Frank Rankin as president and a combined board of directors. The Federal Charter being granted, in a short time removal of the banking room was made across the street to the present location at 286 North 15th street. At the time of Federalization assets had dropped to approximately \$850,000.00, but at the present time have risen to almost a million and a quarter dollars.

During the years following 1931 Sebring was without other banking facilities but constant agitation for re-establishment was heard for 15 years. However, nothing was accomplished since most Sebring banking business had been transferred to Alliance and new friendships and involvements made. At the end of the war sentiment had begun to crystalize to the point that all were of the opinion that we could continue without the second financial institution no longer.

Under the sponsorship of the Sebring Retail Merchants Association and with the aid of other public spirited citizens, organizations and neighboring banks, capital stock was sold to the extent of \$100,000.00 and surplus and a Federal charter was granted to The First National Bank of Sebring. All stock being sold in this area, organization was completed by the group from Sebring and vicinity and the opening date of the new bank was February 7, 1948. By January 1, 1949, interest and enthusiasm for the new institution had increased assets to over \$1,000,000.

Now, just as 50 years ago, Sebring is blessed with two substantial thriving institutions which will play major roles in the future of Sebring.

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## REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT IN SEBRING

Transactions in real estate began with the founding of the village, at which time the Sebring brothers put lot numbers on slips of paper, tossed them into a hat and each drew out a number in turn, thus establishing ownership. Even today one will find a lot owned by one Sebring estate next to one owned by a brother.

Probably the earliest realty company to operate in Sebring was the Sebring Land Company formed by various Sebring brothers. Later George E. Sebring and his son, H. Orville, operated a firm on North Fifteenth street known as Sebring Real Estate. They are credited with bringing

the Strong Enamel Company from Bellaire to Sebring, arranging with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for sidings, etc. This was done in 1912.

While operating as Sebring Real Estate, George E. Sebring and son also founded Sebring, Florida, as a haven for retired Salvation Army captains. Mr. Sebring and his son spent part of the years in Florida for a time and the summers here, but later gave up their office here.

The F. A. Sebring Realty Company and West End Realty Company were also active here and operated by various members of the Sebring family.

Later on Mr. Frank T. LeFevre was responsible for many real estate transactions and particularly during the 1920's when many new properties were built in Sebring, and he continued in real estate and insurance until a few years ago, when his son, Franklin, took over his father's business.

Mr. J. B. Michael has been active in real estate and has an office on East Ohio avenue. Also Mr. J. M. Badertscher holds a broker's license. Nearly all the factories built homes near their plants to house some of their employees, charging

moderate rents. After the depression of the 30's these factory-owned properties were either torn down or reverted to financial institutions holding mortgages.

In 1930, Mr. B. H. Sebring, together with Miss Tamar B. Thumm, moved to part of the old Sebring Cooperage Company building where a new office was established to handle rentals of the various properties in which the O. H. Sebring family had interests. All know what the 1930's did to houses with mortgages and also the factories, which became vacant.

As an outgrowth of this, Miss Thumm established her own real estate office at 100 South Fifteenth street, collecting rents and later selling real estate. Among the early properties sold were those back of the old French China Company and Strong Manufacturing Company. Thus numerous former tenants became owners for the first time and gradually improved that section of town.

The office at 100 South Fifteenth street was maintained until early 1948 when Miss Thumm moved to 8 South Fifteenth street where she still operates as a Realtor.

## BUILDERS

We pay tribute to the master mechanics, or better called master builders, those who planned, supervised and built Sebring physically. A book could be written here, but references can only be made to personalities and some buildings.

The "Oliver" pottery building (later called E. H. Sebring China and now Royal China Inc.) was the first factory built. With this building as well as nearly all the early pottery buildings the name of William Green stands out prominently. His widow survives, living with her daughter, Mrs. C. D. Wible.

Advertisements in 1900 by local builders offered homes from \$500 to \$5,000. A roll call of the early builders includes Scott Hickox, F. D. Shewell, John Gamble, W. K. Roller and Co., Getz Bros., W. F. Scott, Scofield Bros., G. W. Curtis, I. M. Baker, Garside and Bissett, Wetzel and Leiner, L. E. Unstead and J. V. Newlin.

As years passed new names appear such as George Henry, with Peoples Lumber Co., A. E. Menges, and, in 1918, the present firm of Williams and Anderson was formed. Many of our business, factory and residence buildings are to the credit of the above.

J. Andrus McBain's name is associated with the building of the Methodist church, O. H. Sebring residence and many others.

F. D. Shewell built the F. A. Sebring residence and Presbyterian church, only to mention two of many.

Jacob Myers, a Salem architect, made the plans and supervised the building of O. H. and E. H. Sebring homes, also the Mahoning block.

Electricity was in its infancy and power was supplied by the McKee Light and Power Company. S. E. McKee did the early house wiring.

Heavy demand early developed for bricklayers and steady work for many was provided. The Mellor family has personified this craft from earliest Sebring until the present. Harold Robinson, Harold McCausland, Homer Fryfogle and Charles Cartwright likewise are prominent craftsmen.

Very few of the early mechanics remain to answer roll call at this Anniversary. We mention two, Stewart Scofield, a contractor, and I. James Early, a plumber, who have given Sebring full 50 years service.

## HISTORY OF INSURANCE

The first insurance agent in Sebring was George E. Sebring, representing the Aetna Insurance Company. The date was 1902. He was succeeded by Dick Albright, Attorney Baker, Mr. Redinger and Ed Myers in rather rapid order.

In addition to insurance they also sold real

estate and operated the local Wells-Fargo Express agency.

In 1910 Frank T. LeFevre bought out Ed Myers and, with the exception of one period of nine months in 1915-16, was continuously in the business for thirty-nine years. He was succeeded

by his son, F. H. LeFevre.

Harry Israel started an insurance agency in Sebring in 1926. J. M. Badertscher bought the agency in 1944. In December, 1945, his brother-in-law, Gail Williams, joined him. In 1946, when J. M. Badertscher became Superintendent of the Sebring schools, his interest was taken by Ernest Case.

Olin R. Shoar began writing insurance in Beloit in 1926. He moved his office to Sebring in 1936. He has been at his present location since October, 1944.

Sebring Insurance Service agency was started in October, 1946, by William Buck and Ray Poorbaugh.

Arthur Speakman took over the southwest Mahoning County territory for the Farm Bureau in December, 1948, and moved into an office on South Fifteenth street.

In addition to the above active agents, Attorney H. R. Ewing, "Aus" Heacock, F. L. McClure, Ed Stanley, Homer Albaugh, Anson Stoffer and others will be remembered as having been engaged in the insurance business in former times.

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### SEBRING FIRES

Sebring has had three large fires in its history. About 3:00 a. m. on the morning of July 24, 1920, fire broke out in a Chinese laundry on West Ohio avenue near the square. The water line between the pumping station and the stand-pipe was broken and there was no water. The fire quickly spread and totally destroyed the three-story Herman building, the Knight building on the corner, and the Sebring Times plant. The heat was so intense it cracked the plate glass windows on the east side of 15th street opposite the fire. The loss was more than \$70,000.

In January, 1931, the Ohio Avenue Motor Company, at the corner of 16th street and Ohio avenue, caught fire and burned for a total loss. Forty-two automobiles were destroyed and the loss was estimated at \$70,000.

A boiler explosion on February 3, 1947, set the Grindley Artware Manufacturing Company afire. It was a cold night and the fire got out of control. In spite of the best efforts of the Sebring and Alliance fire departments it spread from one part of the plant to another. By morning nothing was left but blackened ruins. This time the loss was \$200,000.

Among the earliest fires in Sebring was that of the Gem Clay Forming Company. After much persuasion by the Sebrings, Messrs. Greene and

Weaver were induced to move their business here. They occupied a two story, frame building behind the French China Co. Early one morning, about 1906, a fire started from hot coal ashes. There was not much water or equipment available and the building was a complete loss. The management was again undecided whether to stay here or go back to East Liverpool, but the Sebrings again persuaded them to remain.

A curious coincidence occurred in another early fire. Samuel Katzenstein was constructing a business block in 1901 where the Allen building now stands. Mr. Katzenstein was living in Alliance. When the building was partially completed Mart Young, a Salem insurance agent, met him on the way to Sebring one day and solicited the insurance on it. Mr. Katzenstein told him to go ahead and insure it. That same day, during the noon hour, the unfinished building caught fire from a plumber's furnace and the building burned to the ground.

Another spectacular fire was the burning of the O. H. Sebring mansion on Ohio avenue, on Thanksgiving evening, 1943, then the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Overlander. The destruction was practically complete. Wilbur Bradley, a fireman was seriously injured when he fell from the roof of the blazing building.

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### THE DEPRESSION AND THE "NEW LOOK"

After the depression of the 30's had played havoc with Sebring's industries and business houses, the picture here was indeed a dark one. The plants were run down and operated with old and obsolete equipment. The hundreds of cone kilns towering so proudly over the potteries in the 20's were smokeless and falling apart. A member of one of the founder families predicted, as did many, that the Sebrings would never again

spend money for brick and mortar, that the building days were over. Far from being true, the companies were reorganized or replaced with new ones, and all plants have been modernized inside and out beyond the fondest dreams of the early days. Sebring's plants now are the most modern and efficient and among the largest potteries and enamel plants in the world.

# SEBRING: A TOWN OF INDUSTRIES

## ROYAL CHINA INC.

ROYAL CHINA INC. was founded June 1, 1934, by Miss B. L. Miller, W. H. Hebenstreit and John B. Briggs, operations beginning in the old abandoned E. H. Sebring China Co. building, the first manufacturing plant to be constructed on the site which has become the village of Sebring. While this company cannot celebrate its 50th anniversary until 1984, yet its place among the leading dinnerware plants of the country is proof that 50 years of progress has taken place in its 15 years of existence.

From a working force of approximately 10 people and a plant in bad repair and housing old equipment, this company has grown to an employment of over 700 people, operating with the most modern equipment and housed in buildings being modernized by repairs and with additions each year. The annual output in dozens has increased from 650,000 to over 2,500,000, making it the largest dinnerware plant in Sebring and the third largest in the U. S. A., west of East Liverpool.

The original product manufactured was of conventional shape and design, using overglaze decorations in the form of decalcomanias, gold stamps or lines. After many years of research in the use and application of underglaze colors, a process was perfected whereby intricate decorations could be automatically applied directly on the unglazed ware. This process was put into production in 1948, applying to the centuries old Blue Willow pattern. Other underglaze patterns quickly followed in various colors, so that in one year's time Royal China has become predominantly underglaze in its decorations, and by its large volume of the Willow patterns it is now the world's largest manufacturer in Willow Ware.

## THE SEBRING COOPERAGE COMPANY

Among the first manufacturing plants of Sebring, when the town was started, was the Sebring Cooperage Company, incorporated in 1902. The cooperage shop was located directly across Fifteenth street from what is now Royal China's packing rooms.

The Sebring brothers made a special effort to build and equip their plants with the most up-to-date machinery available at that time. In line with this idea, when they decided to build a factory to manufacture their shipping packages, they got in touch with the manufacturer of this type of machinery and had designed and built some of the special machines used for this purpose, including a boling saw made to cut the logs in suitable sizes for staves, a rip saw to continuously feed the stave blocks to the saw, from which

the staves were fed to an especially designed machine which jointed the two sides of the staves, equalized to length, and crazed and champfered them in one handling by the operator.

The capacity of these machines was 10,000 staves per day. This was about four times the capacity of any other machines made for the purpose at that time. The timber used for staves came from within a radius of from 10 to 15 miles of Sebring and was delivered to the mill by teams and trucks.

About 1904 O. H. Sebring and his son, B. H. Sebring, became sole owners and continued until the close of business in 1935.

The box and crate department had in operation cut off saws, rip saws and other necessary machines, including six nailing machines, each of which would drive up to ten nails at one stroke of the machine.

The average number of employes, including coopers, box makers, timber cutters was about 50. Some of the long time employes included C. L. Beebout, cooper foreman; Jake Vogt, cooper foreman; August Schindler, cooper foreman; H. W. Failor, who was superintendent from its beginning until the close of the business.

## THE LIMOGES CHINA COMPANY

The Limoges China Co., located in Sebring, is a direct descendant of the chain of potteries established in 1887 by the six Sebring brothers, who were members of an old line of potters of East Liverpool, Ohio.

The original infant plant soon outgrew its swaddling clothes and before long demanded room and opportunity which the hills and ravines of picturesque East Liverpool could not supply. So, in the late 1890's a new location was sought. The Sebring brothers transferred their pottery activities to the town of East Palesine, Ohio, where they operated for a brief period.

But the migration was not over. The urge to find a virgin territory which would provide better living conditions for employes and permit an unlimited plant expansion at minimum expense was the driving force which caused these brothers to continue to seek a new location.

Limoges China Co. was formed by F. A. Sebring, one of the brothers, and today this pottery operates as one of the largest units of its kind in the pottery district.

Mr. Sebring's original intention for the Limoges China Co. was to have a factory which would manufacture thin porcelain products, like the ware featured in Europe. It had long been his ambition to create a line of dinnerware here in America which would make it unnecessary for Americans to go to the European pottery centers for their fine chinaware. For this purpose it was neces-

sary to bring a highly trained superintendent from Central Europe, who was thoroughly familiar with the manufacturing processes and materials necessary to produce a thin china. The materials were imported from Europe, at great expense. The factory was built and production started.

The new business was well on its way to success when a disastrous fire occurred at the plant (in the third year) which destroyed most of the equipment, all of the records and formulas and finally caused the untimely death of the ceramic expert who was responsible for the new line.

These catastrophies almost ruined the new plant's chances for survival in the business world and less stout hearts than F. A. Sebring's would probably have abandoned the project altogether. But after a brief inactive period, the Limoges China Co. emerged completely renovated, re-equipped, and ready to operate. This time, under the direction of one of the younger Sebring brothers, the plant was changed and arranged to produce semi-porcelain or earthenware with which the brothers had so long been familiar.

From the very beginning the Limoges pottery was destined to develop newer and better processes for the pottery craft and for nearly half a century to be one of the leaders in the pottery industry.

Among the developments which can be traced directly to this plant was the installation of the first of the tunnel kilns, replacing the old periodic "beehive" type of kilns, which had been in use for hundreds of years. This step completely revolutionized the pottery industry and is largely responsible for an entirely new type of American dinnerware.

Decalcomania transfers, now so generally used to replace the old "print and hand" paint method of decorating, made its American debut at this plant.

It was at Limoges that one of the first industrial ceramic laboratories was established with graduate ceramic engineers in charge—a step which banished the old guess work and "trial and error" methods in vogue among potters from the beginning of history.

Limoges was one of the earliest to recognize the importance of style in the creation of dinnerware. It was one of the first to use the services of a full-time artist and designer to originate and create a line of American ware completely away from European trends.

The American pottery industry originally followed, very closely, English methods of manufacture. English raw materials were used almost entirely in the original American potteries. The infant Limoges China Co. demonstrated that American manufacturing methods, combined with American raw materials, could produce the equal, if not the superior of any earthenware products manufactured elsewhere in the world

It was at the Limoges plant, where the only wheels of industry were turning, during the depression, that the potters of Sebring community gathered to work at their craft. A staggered labor program enabled practically every craftsman in town to get at least part of a week's work, even though it was necessary to almost treble the number of workmen that would ordinarily have been required to do the work. The founder of the company, F. A. Sebring, was the one who insisted that all the workmen in Sebring be given enough to do to tide them over the dark days.

One of the largest and most modern circular kilns has recently been installed and will increase the capacity of Limoges by about one-third—an increase made necessary by the continued growing demands for the products of this plant.

A further progressive step has just been made in the method of marketing the finished products. Today all the retail sales are made from stores bearing the name of House of American Limoges. These stores are rapidly being established in all the principal cities.

The ownership of the plant since the death of F. A. Sebring has passed into the hands of very progressive and aggressive eastern parties.

(Excerpts from article in Engineering Experiment Station News, Ohio State University.)

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## BARCLAY MACHINE COMPANY

John F. Hall opened a machine shop in 1906 at 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue, the room now occupied by the Sebring Taxi Cab Company, under the name of Hall Machine Works. Here he did general machine work and blacksmithing for the potteries.

It was at this location that John F. Hall, with the cooperation of Orville Sebring (son of George E. Sebring), built the first decalcomania machine, and installed it in The French China Co. plant. When the machine was installed the decal girls went out on strike because they would receive only \$1.50 per nine-hour day.

In 1916 John F. Hall purchased a lot on East Ohio avenue, adjoining city hall, and built the present brick building and continued his operations at this location until his death in 1935.

Thomas M. Barclay, an employee of Mr. Hall since 1915, then purchased the machine shop and stock from Mr. Hall's widow, Mrs. Olive M. Hall. Here he operated for a time under the name of Hall Machine Company; then changed the name to Barclay Machine Company, handling mill supplies, belting, shafting, bearings, electric motors, pottery machinery replacement parts, etc.

On December 1, 1948, an employee, William E. Cope, took over the business and began operating under what is now known as Barclay Machine Incorporated.

## THE FRENCH SAXON CHINA COMPANY

The following are the high spots of the history of The Saxon China Company and The French Saxon China Company.

The Saxon China Company was founded by Fred E. Sebring, who built the original plant and began operation on or about September 25, 1911. He was assisted by Harry J. McMaster, who at that time was plant superintendent, and Richard (Dick) Barton, clay shop foreman. The Saxon China Company continued operations until the year 1932, at which time it was dissolved as a corporation and ceased operation. The French China Company also passed out of existence at the same time.

This was in the days of the depression, and on April 4, 1934, W. V. Oliver purchased the Saxon China plant from the bondholders and organized the present French Saxon China Company, many progressive citizens of Sebring helping in the initial stock sale. After several months spent in reconditioning the plant, operations were started in November, 1934, on a very small scale, with approximately sixteen employees. The first ware made was shipped in January, 1935.

At the time the operation of the plant under the name of The French Saxon China Company was started, the plant was equipped with the old type beehive or upright kilns with no modern equipment. Since that time the plant has been expanded almost 100 percent and has been completely modernized with all new circular tunnel type kilns and an eight-line automatic jigger machine which has a capacity of 600 dozen pieces of ware per hour, and other automatic equipment, such as a brushing machine, glazing machine and the latest type of decalcomania, lining and stamping machines.

This expansion program was started in 1948 and completed at a cost of more than a million and a quarter dollars. As of today, with its facilities and equipment, the company has a dollar sales volume capacity of between four and four and a half million dollars annually. The company now sells its product in every state of the union, Canada, Mexico and other South American countries.

The present number of employees on the payroll is 380.

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## SPAULDING CHINA COMPANY, INC.

Spaulding China Company, Inc., is one of Sebring's most modern plants, employing approximately 200 people the year round, and has provided an annual payroll of over \$650,000.00 for a number of years.

This company was started in a garage on East Ohio avenue, in 1939, by Morris Feinberg, of Mt. Vernon, New York, Irving Miller, of Jamaica, Long Island, New York, and George A. Stanford, Sr., of Sebring. The plant, which was suc-

cessful from the beginning, needed more room shortly after starting and moved temporarily to the abandoned plant of the Alliance Vitreous China Company. However, the owners were still looking for a Sebring location so as to be in the heart of the pottery industry and, through the efforts of the Sebring Business Men, they acquired the location of the old Sebring Rubber Company and proceeded to restore the buildings.

The company was moved to this location in 1941. At this time the number of employees was very small but as the business progressed the plant was built up, modern machinery installed, the most up-to-date system of producing artware was made available, and today the plant, after being enlarged several times, uses 58,000 square feet of floor space daily in its production. The finest circular Allied continuous kilns in the industry and also a continuous tunnel kiln for decorated firing have been installed to make it a superior plant. Its product, ceramic artware of the highest type, is sold in every state in the Union, Canada, and many of the foreign countries.

The officers of the Spaulding China Co., Inc, are: Morris Feinberg, president, Mount Vernon, New York; Irving Miller, vice president, Jamaica, Long Island, New York; Daniel Eisenberg, vice president and assistant secretary, Plainfield, N. J.; David Borowitz, secretary, Chicago, Illinois.

The main office of this corporation is located in the Empire State building, New York City, New York.

The plant is operated by the following personnel: James G. Eardley, general manager; E. F. Cannell, production control; James Simpson, production; Albert Sines, maintenance supervisor; Clyde Hardy, decorating and design; Frank Weizenecker, quality control and shipping; Miss Barbara Berry, office manager; Miss Joann Haberland, billing; Miss Margaret Kadisch, art and design; Carmen Lewis, design; Dennie Welch, dipping.

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## CHINA CRAFT INC.

During the lush war days a number of smaller potteries sprang up in Sebring, manufacturing novelties, lamps and various ornamental and useful articles. One of these plants was China Craft Inc., which still operates and is a growing institution contributing its share to the prosperity and renown of Sebring as a pottery center.

China Craft is owned and operated by Ralph H. Brown, president of the company, and Lester Locke secretary-treasurer. Moved from its original location in the old Brown grocery building on North Fifteenth Street, it now occupies a much larger brick building near the tracks on Sixteenth street and gives employment to from twenty to twenty-five people.

## THE STRONG MANUFACTURING CO.

Thomas L. Strong organized The Strong Manufacturing Company in the city of Bellaire, O., in 1903, to manufacture enameled cooking utensils. Enameled ware was then generally used for cooking, although copper and tin utensils were competitive wares. Glass, aluminum and stainless steel utensils had not yet come into the picture.

Mr. Strong held very strong convictions, and one was a dislike for the liquor business, and Bellaire in those days had plenty of saloons. Sebring, O. was brought to his attention as an ideal new factory site. The factory at Bellaire was in the high water district and several times the company suffered large financial losses from Ohio river flood waters, and this situation was a decided reason for seeking a new location. O. H. Sebring and Orville Sebring were especially helpful in the negotiations with Mr. Strong to move his plant to Sebring. It was their idea and plan that cooking utensils could be marketed through the same channels as Sebring chinaware.

In 1912 a new plant was built on California avenue, and after the transfer from Bellaire the new operation at Sebring was launched. The original building had about 75,000 square feet of floor space. The officers and office personnel at the time the new factory started at Sebring were: T. L. Strong, president; James E. Fry, secretary-treasurer; Miss Florence Reed (now Mrs. Sumner Oesch), bookkeeper; Miss Minnie Neuhart and Herbert Boyer; directors, T. L. Strong, J. E. Fry, O. H. Sebring, W. H. Purcell, M. S. Melbourne.

About 40 families moved from Bellaire to Sebring. At the present time only W. M. Steele, Kelley Tuel, John Belfour, Thomas Hipkins, Sr., and Elmer Peddicord are still working at Strong. George Diday, John Heddleson, and Fred Fein recently retired from active service.

The main product at the beginning of operations at Sebring was still cooking utensils, although soon some job enameling of stove parts was added to the production. It was along in these years when white porcelain enamel was beginning to be used generally on stoves and other kitchen equipment.

The year 1916 was a decisive one for the new venture at Sebring. It was then that Strong took over from the General Electric Company Division at Cleveland the manufacture of their complete line of industrial lighting reflectors and fixtures. In a few years the Westinghouse line was added and by 1919 about two-thirds of the production was reflectors. Mr. Strong employed about 175 people at this stage of the operation.

During the years of 1918, 1919, 1920, O. H. Sebring bought considerable stock in the company and in 1921 Mr. Strong sold out all his holdings of stock in the Strong to Mr. Sebring, thereby

giving him control of the management. Mr. Strong, in the meantime, bought out the West Lafayette (O.) Manufacturing Co. and retired from the Strong Mfg. Co. in 1920. Mr. Strong died in 1921 at Coshocton, Ohio.

Frank E. Jones, son-in-law of Mr. Strong, was associated with him from the early years of the operations at Sebring as sales manager and became secretary of the company. After Mr. Strong left the company, O. H. Sebring became president, F. E. Jones, secretary and general manager; W. U. Pfaeffli, treasurer and office manager. In 1921 Mr. Jones also left the Strong to go with Mr. Strong to the West Lafayette factory. W. U. Pfaeffli succeeded Mr. Jones as general manager. At this time the production was still mainly reflectors and enamel ware and employees numbered about 200 people.

In 1929 another decisive change came along, when O. H. Sebring decided to merge his three factories, namely, The French, The Saxon, and The Strong, into the Sebring Mfg. Corporation, when the Strong Mfg. Co. lost its status as an independent company.

In 1930 there followed the fatal merger, The American Chinaware Corp., which included the Sebring Mfg. Corp., of which Strong Mfg. Co. was a part. This merger of approximately 10 potteries and one enamel factory failed in 1931 and was declared bankrupt. The Strong plant as well as the French and the Saxon plants became the property of the trustee under a bond mortgage placed on the above three plants in 1929. The Strong plant was still one of the few in the merger operating successfully at the time of the collapse. This ends the history of the first Strong Mfg. Co. at Sebring.

The second Strong venture began in 1932 when Sebring people were in a desperate mood to start something since losing three factories in the American Chinaware debacle, and at about the same time the local bank failed. A committee of men from Sebring and Beloit was organized for the herculean job of bringing back to life one of the now lifeless factories and they selected the Strong. The courage and faith of the men of this committee succeeded in selling 1,000 shares at \$50.00 each to approximately 350 stockholders in Sebring, Beloit, Alliance and vicinity. This was accomplished in the depth of the depression, during the spring of 1932.

The old plant of the former Strong Co. was purchased from the trustee, The Central National Bank, Cleveland, for \$50,000.00 and the new Strong was officially launched in May, 1932.

The first officers elected were W. U. Pfaeffli, President; T. F. Shaffer, Secretary-Treasurer; Directors — Ed. Stanley, John Allen, T. F. Shaffer, W. U. Pfaeffli, Arthur Morgan.

Arthur Morgan, attorney, of Youngstown, kindly gave his legal services free in the early

years of the company's struggle. In 1933, the first full year's operation, the sales were \$52,000, and at the beginning of 1934 the company had lost about one-third of the original capital. In this year sales had climbed to \$102,000.00 and a small profit was shown.

It just seemed impossible to find a product to fit in an operation with such small working capital left. The reflector business was lost to other suppliers during the shut down and kitchenware was out of the question because of insufficient capital to carry inventories and customer credit. In desperation the company even tried to market a wringerless mop an entirely unrelated product to enamelware. In fact, good going concerns had plenty of trouble getting enough business to survive, let alone an upstart with practically no money such as Strong was in those first years.

The big break came in 1935 when an order for 12,000 vegetable pans amounting to about \$7,000.00 was received from Westinghouse Electric Co., at Mansfield, Ohio. This item was surely a life saver, for it fit in the operation ideally, since the turnover was fast, with a minimum of working capital required. In fact, the steel was bought on 30-day terms, made into pans, enameled, shipped and the money collected in time to pay the steel bill on time.

In the latter part of the 20's Frigidaire Division of General Motors Corp. brought out the hydrator pan to keep fresh vegetables crisp in mechanical refrigerators. The immediate success of this invention by Frigidaire made it competitively necessary to come out with something similar, and in a short time every manufacturer of mechanical refrigerators was including a porcelain enameled vegetable pan. This development offered a wonderful opportunity to Strong and they immediately began to specialize in this type of production. This policy was very successful, for at one time Strong made about 95% of all pans bought by refrigerator manufacturers. The following companies bought pans from Strong at one time: General Electric, Westinghouse, Norge, Crosley, Kelvinator, Philco, Servel, Admiral and Coolerator.

In 1937 the company was successful in getting back in the reflector business, as the old Westinghouse account was taken away from U. S. Stamping Co. and placed with Strong. Also in 1938 Strong made the first parts for Westinghouse's new item, the electric roaster, and is still making all their roaster requirements.

The Strong has been very fortunate in serving customers of national and international reputation and is approaching fifteen years of continuous service with its oldest customers.

From a low of \$17,000.00 sales in 1932 to \$6,750,000.00 in 1948, and from a half dozen em-

ployees in 1932 to 1050 in 1948 is the simple story of the growth of the second Strong Company.

Strong had a very successful operation in producing war goods concentrating mainly on mess gear, namely, canteens, canteen cups, and mess trays. At peak production 10,000 canteens and 10,000 cups were made in 24 hours' operation.

In August, 1944, Strong was given the Army E Award with an appropriate ceremony at the stadium. 1946 was mainly absorbed with the re-conversion problem and the beginning of the most extensive expansion plans in preparation for the two big volume years, 1947 and 1948. Floor space has increased in the original Strong plant from 75,000 feet to approximately 150,000, by additions, and in 1939 the old French China building was bought and about one-third of its floor space is used by Strong and two-thirds leased to Westinghouse for reflector storage and shipping.

This complete operation entitles the company to be classified as one of the large porcelain enamel factories in the country.

The present officers are: W. U. Pfaeffli, Chairman of the Board; T. F. Shaffer, President and Treasurer; W. H. Metz, Executive Vice President; Arthur Morgan, Secretary. Directors — T. F. Shaffer, W. H. Metz, W. U. Pfaeffli, Sidney Collens, Youngstown, Arthur Morgan, Michael Birthelmer and Lee Mack.

Sebring and vicinity owe a lot of appreciation and gratitude to the small group of men that had courage and vision to work so hard for the new Strong. Salutations to them and of those who are gone only the kindest memories remain — Miss Minnie Neuhart and Herbert Boyer, faithful office attaches, who served long and well.

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## ALUMINUM MANUFACTURE

Along about 1920 aluminum cooking utensils were becoming quite the thing and its increasing popularity with housewives was creating a serious problem for enamelware manufacturers. In 1921 O. H. Sebring sensed the situation and decided that the Strong Mfg. Co. should meet it by engaging also in the manufacture of aluminum kitchen utensils. Accordingly a small aluminum ware plant in Sheboygan, Wis., was bought and the equipment moved to Sebring. So, by 1922 the Strong Mfg. Co. was in the aluminum ware business, but found competition ver tough, and after several years of operation against great odds decided to discontinue the line. To make a complete job of it, the manufacture of enameled kitchenware was discontinued after the war started. So enamelware manufacture, which was begun to diversify Sebring industry, failed of its purpose, but not until it had had a good trial.

## THE GEM CLAY FORMING CO.

The Gem Clay Forming Company was incorporated in the year 1907, as of Sebring. However, the company originated in East Liverpool, Ohio, then moved to Sebring.

Founders were: E. C. Albright, president; B. H. Greene, vice president and general manager; and H. D. Weaver, secretary and treasurer. These men were the originators of the company and held their various positions until the time of their deaths. As they passed on their vacancies were filled by their sons and son-in-law. The present officers of the company are C. K. Wiley, president; R. J. Greene, vice president and general manager; C. H. Weaver, secretary and treasurer; L. E. Bryan, plant manager.

When the company came to Sebring they built a plant directly south of the old French pottery at present, The Strong Manufacturing Company, on 19th street. At that time they manufactured gas mantle rings, tips, pins and stilts. This plant burned to the ground in 1908, at which time they purchased their present site from the Sebring Pump Company. The building on this site was a two story brick building, which at the present time is the office building. Today, the site of the company covers the area from Georgia avenue to California avenue north and south; and from 15th to 16th streets, east and west.

The company makes a diversified line of ceramic products, consisting of radiants, backwalls and refractories for space heaters; electrical porcelain for the electric trade; lamp bases for the lamp trade; condiments, timer cases and light housings for the cooking range trade.

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## SEBRING MACHINE TOOL & DIE, INC.

This shop known as the Sebring Machine Tool & Die was first started on July 23, 1945, at the present location, 195½ East Michigan avenue. It was organized and started by William Miller and J. G. Pettit, the present owners. In four years of serving the public it has been necessary to enlarge the building, also increase the amount of tools and machinery.

The plant is equipped to do general machine work and machine repairs and build any special equipment or machinery within its capacity. It has acetylene and electric welding facilities necessary in the building or manufacturing of fabricated items or equipment.

The company specializes in the designing and making of dies necessary to the Metal Stamping industry and often designs and builds tools and machines to the customers' specifications, specializing in those used in the Ceramic industry.

While they are still one of the smaller concerns in Sebring's manufacturing circle, they have given steady employment to three or four people.

## STANFORD ART POTTERY INC.

The Stanford Art Pottery is located in what was formerly the old Sebring Pottery building at the corner of 15th street and California avenue.

The company was incorporated less than four years ago and during this period has expanded from a small upright kiln to a \$35,000 monthly payroll and 140 employees.

The products manufactured by this company fall in the category of art pottery. Such items as figurines, planters, clock cases, and lamp bases are included in this group. This pottery ware is sold in a low priced to medium price bracket.

For sometime after the corporation's founding, all manufacturing was done on a custom basis for a particular manufacturer or jobber. This policy has been changed somewhat within the past few months, as the company's own items have been gradually developed and sold direct to the retailer.

George Stanford, Jr., who was the co-founder of two other potteries in Sebring, is the president. His brother, W. H. Stanford, is vice-president. L. L. Root is treasurer, and Richard Sherer is secretary of the company. They also act as administrators of the production and selling duties and make up the board of directors.

The company maintains a retail and wholesale store at the plant where its products can be bought in either first or second quality.

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## WESTINGHOUSE

### The Latest Newcomer to Our City

On February 1, 1948, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Lighting Division, of Cleveland, O., leased the old French Pottery building, next to the Strong Manufacturing Co., and opened a warehouse, under the capable management of Mr. R. W. Starre, who was transferred from Cleveland at this time.

From the very humble beginning of three employees it increased to twenty-four. After several re-adjustments, and addition of material handling equipment, the number of employees was reduced to 16, the number that are now permanently employed.

From this warehouse of approximately 85,000 square feet of floor space shipments are made to all points in the United States, and all foreign countries. Westinghouse, Cleveland Division, manufactures industrial and commercial lighting equipment exclusively.

Sebring welcomes this new and respected industry to our city, bringing with it added employment, and helping make a more diversified employment situation for the people of Sebring.

## SEBRING TAKES A SHOT AT AUTO MANUFACTURING

In 1912, Sebring not only was the name of an Ohio village and a prominent family but also an automobile.

In that year Sebring became the site of a factory which was producing a motor car far ahead of its time.

The Sebring Six was one of the first autos to be manufactured. Its center of gravity was lower than any other car on the market. Another point of difference was its comparatively high price of \$2,750.

Jim Gwin and Bob Allen came here with their design for an automobile backed by O. H. Sebring and B. H. Sebring. While the firm was in operation in what was commonly called the Old Forge Works building, 25 cars were produced.

A revised Sebring Six was driven by Joe Cooper and Louie Peoz, sponsored by Ed Myers, in the Indianapolis Speedway Races. Cooper lost his life in a wreck in Des Moines, Iowa, while racing on a board track. Peoz now resides in Cleveland.

The Big Six, another model designed by Jim Gwin, sold for \$3,500.00; only one was made. B. H. Gwin, now of Alliance, made the test run, going to Coney Island. The Big Six had tufted leather seats and a hand buffed top. As was the case with cars of the time, the Big Six was a touring car, covered merely with what now would be considered an awning.

What were called touring cars then, open air through necessity and the want of something better, now are called phaetons and are a definite luxury.

(Reprinted from Sebring Times June 3, 1949)

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## SEBRING TIRE AND RUBBER CO.

One of its industries that many of the younger element in Sebring do not even know about, perhaps, and which many of the older crowd have nearly forgotten, was the Sebring Tire & Rubber Co., a concern started into production late in 1915, and manned by the following corps of officers:

President, H. D. Weaver; Vice President, C. B. Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, W. B. Stevenson; General Manager, John Hotchkiss.

Production in the plant got up to five hundred tires per day and the business continued until 1924, when the stress of competition with immense rubber corporations became too great.

The factory was the original part of the building now occupied by the Spaulding China Co. For years after the business had closed and the plant was standing idle, a large sign on the east end of the plant blazed forth the proud boast that Sebring tires were guaranteed for five thousand miles,

## GRINDLEY ARTWARE MFG. CO., INC.

Started during the depression to develop a line of manufacture other than dinnerware in the ceramic field, Grindley Artware rapidly became one of the substantial industries in Sebring as business conditions began to stage a recovery. And when the war came on and foreign-made artware was off the market Grindley artware enjoyed a field day in the American market.

Arthur Grindley, an experienced potter, and his son, Arthur, Jr., who also knew pottery and had a decided flair for the artistic, began the manufacture of figurines and small art novelties in the cellar of the home of the elder Grindley. Soon the cellar was inadequate and an old barn on the rear of the family lot was pressed into service, a kiln built in it and every inch of space from haymow down made use of. And this expansion, too, soon proved to be just a start. Ground was purchased across the alley in the rear of the old barn and a sizable pottery plant was erected, with a fine continuous kiln and improved equipment. Business was good and orders plentiful when a fire broke out in the plant one night in February, 1947, and spread so rapidly that in no time at all, you might say, the plant was ashes and warped steel girders lying on the floors. Fortunately the 175 employees were not working at the time of the fire.

It looked like the end, but Arthur Grindley, Jr., was not quitting. The father had previously passed on. A company was incorporated and loose ends gathered up and the construction of a new plant was rushed to completion. Naturally such a disaster disorganized matters and business was scattered and disrupted, but with all the handicaps thus imposed the company carried on and is gaining steadily. Naturally Mr. Grindley expected it to take much time to recoup and get on an even keel again, but the march back is proceeding ahead of schedule and the company can foresee Grindley artware regaining and surpassing the prestige enjoyed in its palmiest days.

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## MODERN CHINA CO.

The Modern China Co. is one of Sebring's newer industrial concerns, occupying their own building on Vermont avenue, erected in 1946. Construction was begun in May and the plant was in operation in September of that year. The company is an equal partnership of the father, Clarence Bostwick, and two sons, Ralph and Bernard, both veterans of World War II.

An addition to the building was made in July, 1948, to take care of increasing business. At first their products were sold only through distributors, but sales are now made direct to stores and china retail outlets. It is a busy little plant, mostly family operated, employing a dozen people at this time.

## DRY CLEANING CONCERNS

Several out-of-town dry cleaning companies are represented by agencies in Sebring, among them the Alliance, the Manhattan and the Troy. Wm. Wilson has the oldest agency here and also does a large business in cleaning and pressing in his own shop. But only in recent months has the town had plants equipped to do dry cleaning under their own roofs.

### Just-Rite Cleaners

The Just-Rite was opened for business July 1, 1948, in a modern, well lighted and equipped plant of its own located on East Ohio avenue, by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Buehler, owners. Mr. Buehler is a graduate of the National Institute of Cleaners and Dyers, of Silver Springs, Maryland. Mrs. Buehler is a very capable assistant in the business. A trip through the plant will surprise you as you see the amount of high grade equipment used and the neatness of the shop, well ventilated and lighted day and night. Several men and women are kept busy taking in and turning out work, all completed in their own fireproof shop.

The shop operates six days a week and gives 24 hour service, being able to take care of rush work even more quickly in emergencies.

Theirs is the first building in Ohio to be approved under the dry cleaners' code. Formerly two buildings had to be used to comply with the law.

### Emery Dry Cleaners

In a neat little building at the corner of Fifteenth street and Wisconsin avenue is the Emery Dry Cleaning Company, a concern doing its own work under its own roof and maintaining an office also in Alliance. The Emery brothers, Bill and Paul, erected their own building in 1947 and 1948 and have personal charge of the business. Glenn Pettit is also a stockholder in the company, incorporated in April, 1948, which employs five people regularly, doing dry cleaning and pressing in sufficient volume to already crowd the capacity of their plant and bid fair to call for an expansion in the near future. It is in operation six days a week from 7 a. m. until 5:30 p. m. and gives three-day service on all work.

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### FARMERS' MANUFACTURING CO.

The Farmers' Manufacturing Co. was established here at the beginning of the town, making farm implements. The company claimed an output of \$75,000 in 1901, and the employment of "40 hands." The business, however, was of short duration.

## THE H. BETTIS COMPANY

The H. Bettis Company is a division of the Greif Brothers Cooperage Corporation. It first came to Sebring in May, 1927, taking over the Columbiana Cooperage Company's plant at the corner of 12th street and Baugh avenue. For a while the main offices were located in this building but finally moved to Zanesville, Ohio. As many as eighteen coopers were employed at one time.

In 1935 the cooperage shop moved to its present location on the corner of 17th street and California avenue.

In April, 1936, the H. Bettis Box Company started in the building vacated by the cooperage shop. Since then they have doubled the floor space, added new machines and now normally employ around forty people, providing steady employment.

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### OTHER CONCERNS

Besides the major plants herein listed in Sebring, there are a number of smaller but important and successful concerns operating in the town. Among these are:

Sebring Container Co.; Queen's China Co.; Greene Ceramics; Caldon China Co.; Emerson China Co.; International China Co.; Briggs China Co.; G. & J. Pottery Co.; Oakwood China Co.; and The Collins Parts Exchange.

Some of these are manufacturers of ware in a smaller way and some are sales concerns.

One of the early manufacturing concerns in the town was the Sebring Drop Forge Co.; another was the Sebring Six Automobile Co.

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### TRANSPORTATION - Pennsylvania R. R.

Sebring was made a station on the Pennsylvania railroad in November, 1899. A box car was used as a station until a new depot was built, in 1900. Ed Stanley was the first agent, and served until M. A. Sutherin was appointed on April 1, 1902.

Mr. Sutherin's first clerks were Howard Cook, Emerson Heacock and George Coffman. E. T. Whiter was superintendent of this division, and C. F. Dolcott supervising agent. James Meek became chief clerk in 1903 and remained in that position until his death in December, 1928.

Mr. Sutherin was retired on February 28, 1940; Harry Crewson was appointed agent on March 1, 1940, serving until April 10, 1945. O. D. Coleman was appointed agent on October 31, 1945, and is serving in that capacity at the present time.

The Western Union Telegraph Company was located in the depot until their uptown office was established in 1920. The business of the Railway Express agency is also handled in this office; Mr. H. Kruegel is superintendent, and Mr. J. H. Litty is supervising agent at the present time.

## TRANSPORTATION

The Stark Electric Railway Co. operated through Sebring from 1903 to 1939, providing excellent half-hour service to Salem, Alliance and Canton. The Stark Transit Co. took over after the electric line ceased operation, and still provides very good service to the above mentioned cities. The Wells-Fargo Express Co. business was also handled by the Stark Electric Railway until the year 1920.

Other bus companies operating for a short

time, were run by Louis Kuntzman, and later by Wm. Watson and Glen Oyster; also by James Coleman and Lyle Painter.

The Sebring Trucking Co. operates a large fleet of trucks in and out of Sebring, doing long-distance hauling.

When the Stark Electric laid its lines in Sebring quite a stir was made over whether the line should run down Ohio avenue or parallel the Pennsylvania tracks, the latter route winning out.

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## WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH OFFICE

The first Western Union office was located in the local Pennsylvania railroad office. It was what is called a joint telegraph office. The railroad company furnished the office space and an operator on a commission basis. The first telegraph operator was Thomas Leydon; the second operator was S. A. Byrns, who resigned and went to the office of the French China Co.; the third operator was Charles Rentz, who was the local operator for several years. E. R. Bartchey followed Rentz and remained the local operator until April 1, 1920, when the Western Union established an independent office in the Henry building on 15th street. Howard Crewson was appointed manager of this office and served as local manager for 25 years, until he was promoted to the position of manager of the Alliance Western Union office in 1945.

During Crewson's 25 years of service as local manager there were several local boys who learned

the business and are now managers in other towns, John Manning, and James Yates, are managers at Xenia and Washington Court House, respectively. Clarence Votaw, who learned telegraphy locally, is now in a high position with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company's main office in New York City.

After the independent office was established several new services were added such as, baseball tickers, telegraph clocks, money order service, teleprinter service, etc.

Due to the depression, the business dropped to such an extent and did not come back up in sufficient volume to justify the expense of an independent office, and the company engaged as the new agent, Gail Williams, on North 15th street, who is now doing a fine job of handling the telegraph business with modern telegraph equipment and is giving Sebring just as good service as an independent office could give.

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## LIQUOR IN SEBRING

Guided by the influence of Godly parents, the Sebring brothers saw to it, so they thought, that no intoxicating liquors should ever be sold in the new town of Sebring. To make this sure, all deeds for lots contained a clause prohibiting the sale of intoxicants on the premises. One lot on which the former Hazen drug store was located was exempted, according to the owner of that lot.

For many years no attempt was made to violate the clause and the town was dry enough as far as liquor retailing within its limits was concerned. After national prohibition was repealed in 1933 several places began the sale of liquor and were getting pretty well entrenched before the dry forces of the town rallied from the stupor in which repeal had left them and began to think seriously about enforcing the clause in the deeds. In the late 30's an organization was formed and the matter was carried to the common pleas court in Youngstown. After extended hearings of the

evidence and claims, pro and con, Judge Jenkins ruled that because the liquor houses had been allowed to invest their money, open and run uninterrupted for so long, the town had lost its rights under the deeds. Retail saloons then began to take new courage and got set for operation within the law without fear of dry opposition.

This continued until 1947, when the dry element in the town grew in earnest about their opposition and called a local option election on the issue of stopping all sales of liquor for beverage purposes. After a hard campaign, the dry workers won, though the liquor dispensers fought the decision through the courts as long as a point of attack could be found. But the umpire's decision could not be changed and March, 1948 saw the end of the legal sale of intoxicants in Sebring. The saloons and places where liquor had been sold continued to operate on the sale of non-intoxicating 3.2 beer and lunches.

## NEWSPAPERS AND JOB PRINTING

Owing to the fact that fire destroyed the files of the Sebring Times in 1920, it is difficult to get an accurate historical record of Sebring's early days from a newspaper standpoint. The first paper in the new village was the Sebring News, established soon after the beginning of the town, by Chess Grove, a linotype operator and printer, with L. M. Stanley, a veteran writer, as editor. It was at first printed in Beloit, later moved to Sebring.

The ownership of the paper and the name changed after a few years, when the paper became the Sebring Times, published weekly, as was the News. The name of the new owner has been lost as far as local records are concerned. Mr. Conkle acted as staff writer and editor for several years. He, however, sold to Dick Jones, who was a very capable newspaper man and a very popular man in the community. Jones was elected and served as mayor of Sebring during his ownership. After leaving Sebring Jones married the daughter of the wealthy New York publisher, Wagnalls, and at his death was buried in the beautiful family cemetery at Lithopolis, Ohio, which Mr. Wagnalls had made a shrine.

M. E. Mehrten, of Oil City, Pa., was the next owner of the Times. Mr. Mehrten was a very capable printing craftsman and built up the job printing end of the business, taking care of much of the very large demand for printing of the local plants, which were operating largely on sales schemes at that time which used great quantities of printed matter. Mr. Newton assisted capably and served as editor. Mr. Mehrten, after disposing of the plant and business to J. E. Torbert in 1919 went to Washington, D. C. and was employed in the government printing office for several years, then retiring to Oil City, Pa., where he died within the last few years.

J. E. Torbert operated the plant from 1919

until 1946, when he and Alex Menges, who had grown up with him in the business, incorporated the Sebring Printing & Publishing Co. and Mr. Menges became manager. The plant was destroyed completely in the big fire of 1920, which cleaned out the buildings on the southwest corner of Ohio avenue and Fifteenth street. Mr. Torbert then moved the plant, or as much of it as was left, into the Blumensteil building on West Oregon avenue, and operated the business there until 1930, when he moved into his own building on East Ohio avenue, where the plant remains and is being successfully operated by Mr. Menges.

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## NEWS STANDS

The news stand business in Sebring was founded by S. E. McKee just before the turn of the century when, in the midst of a building boom, the first buildings of Sebring's business section were being raised.

The building which housed the first news stand was built in one day and the carpenters slept that night in the building they had erected.

Continuing the business until 1910, Mr. McKee then sold the agency to a Mr. Sickman. The next year the agency was purchased by Mr. L. K. Deemer and Sons.

The business has continued since then in the Deemer family.

Home delivery of newspapers was begun in 1912 and the entire town was covered by the two Deemer brothers, Cecil and Ralph. Deliveries gradually increased with the growth of Sebring until nine boys and two girls were required to do the job.

Home deliveries were made by the Deemers until 1945 when Fred Burchfield assumed control of the service.

The Deemers continue to operate their news stand but do not make deliveries.

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## LUMBER AND BUILDERS SUPPLIES

The first lumber and builders' supply of record in Sebring was the Jamison Lumber Co. in 1899, operated by a Mr. Jamison of Lisbon, Ohio, which business was later operated by D. A. Wilhelm, Ross Wilhelm and W. W. Henry as the Sebring Lumber Company, under the management of Lawrence Henry, brother of George Henry, who worked for the company as driver and yard man.

The George Henry Supply Company located at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 15th street was organized and in operation in 1916, managed by George Henry, who died in 1918.

The Leonard Hardware Company took over the building and operated for a short time in builders' supplies. The Sebring Lumber Company was purchased by the Peoples Lumber Company of Salem, who operated as the Peoples Lumber

Company until 1944, when the Mount Union Lumber Company purchased the Sebring plant and it was operated by James G. Eardley as general manager, secretary-treasurer, and later by Harry Carli.

December 1, 1947, found a new lumber firm incorporated by four active Carli brothers, Harry, Ernest, Victor and Alfred, operating as Carli Lumber Company. Their first location was a section of the French China plant, later in the Elliott building, on West Ohio avenue, and in January, 1949, they built their present building on South 12th street and Pennsylvania railroad, on an 18-acre plot. The senior brother, Harry, with 18 years with Weybrecht Lumber Company and 3 years with Sebring Lumber Company, together with his three brothers, bring four very active members into Sebring's business circle.

## MILK DEALERS OF SEBRING

In the year 1899, when only about five houses had been built in Sebring, William Greenawalt, a farmer living just east of the corporation limits, began milk delivery, continuing until 1907.

Later in 1899 Ed Shreve delivered in Beloit and Sebring. This route was sold to Jacob Eshler in 1902, and in 1908 sold to Lester Boyle. In 1913 L. L. Greenawalt bought same and built a small creamery near Westville, known now as the Purity Dairy. In 1924 the creamery was sold to A. N. Morley, who made deliveries until Pete Denny took over and was a distributor until 1931. Kenneth and George Heston followed, in 1941 George Heston took the route. In 1937 O. C. Denny leased the Purity Dairy creamery, which he later bought from A. N. Morley, and has built the buildings double the size that Mr. Morley used. In 1943 Richard Denny bought the Sebring route, and in 1945 Emmett Weizenecker began on this route and is delivering at the present time.

In the spring of 1900 H. M. Taylor, a farmer living at the corner of Courtney road and North Johnson road, began a route, although he delivered eggs and butter in 1899. This he continued until 1939, when this route was sold to his son, E. J. Taylor, who began deliveries in 1929. The latter also purchased the route of Jacob Warren, who routed in Sebring and Alliance at that time. H. M. Taylor always supplied milk from his farm until within the last five years, then he purchased same at Purity Dairy, and E. J. Taylor has all dairy products bottled at the creamery. In the 39 years of milk deliveries, H. M. Taylor had many experiences. After the gates were placed at the 15th street railroad crossing the watchman once closed his horse and wagon between them. By turning the horse sideways the flier went past without damage. During the deep snow in April, 1911, he once came to the restaurants in a boat sled and that was the only milk delivered by anyone that day.

The Supreme Dairy, of Alliance, began deliveries here in 1919. In 1942 Frank Vivian began as a distributor of Supreme Dairy products for Sebring and vicinity. In 1919 William Crutchley began a farm dairy and in 1948 became a distributor for Sunnyside Dairy. In 1921 Minnie Van Syoc delivered lunch and milk to the potteries and also milk to private families. In 1934 the route was sold to Purity Dairy. In 1922 Walter Phillips began a farm dairy, and in 1947 Brunner's Dairy purchased this route and is operating now. In 1920 to 1925 Clyde Peterson made farm deliveries, and later sold to Rollo Huff.

Jacob Courtney operated a farm dairy from 1910 to 1916. From 1920-24 Lawrence Heastand, 1924-29 Jacob Warren, who sold to E. J. Taylor. From 1926 to 1930 George McFarland had a farm

dairy. Mrs. Kibler and Mrs. Henry Hutmacher had a small herd of cows and delivered unpasteurized milk for a few years, both have discontinued. The Ladd Dairy was operating only a short time when their wagon was struck at the 15th street railroad crossing and the occupants killed. About 1928 Russell Oesch, from a farm dairy, delivered until his brother Jerd, took over the route in 1932. In 1942 this route was sold to the Supreme Dairy. About 1941 Russell Brogan, operating a farm dairy, delivered milk until 1944, when his brother, Harold, took the route. In 1949 this route was sold to Sunnyside Dairy and Harold Brogan was retained as a driver.

Early milk deliveries were made with horse and wagon. One or two ten-gallon cans were set on a platform in the front of the wagon, the milk was drawn from the can by a valve into a quart measure or small can, which was mostly carried to the doorstep or by ringing a bell for the customers to come to the wagon for their supply. During the hot summer weather both morning deliveries as well as evening were made. The price was as low as five cents a quart. During the World War II, the price was frozen at fifteen cents per quart. The high was in the winter of 1948, twenty-two cents. The first bottled milk was delivered during World War I, and of course this advanced the price.

The Brunner Dairy is now the only farm dairy, while the following are distributors: Purity Dairy, E. H. Weizenecker, E. J. Taylor; Supreme Dairy, Frank Vivian; Sunnyside Dairy, owner, also William Crutchley.

All milk delivered in Sebring is pasteurized, both regular and vitamin D milk, and the three latter dairies have Grade A milk. There are 18 different products delivered by these dairies.

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## ICE AND COAL

During the early times and for about 45 years ice was brought into Sebring from Alliance. Noah Pugh was one of the first ice dealers. Natural ice later was also furnished locally by Orlan Stanley and Herbert Doyle, from Westville Lake, until they sold to Alliance Ice and Coal Company.

In 1927 J. W. Hoopes entered the ice and coal business and continues to serve the city and community to the present time.

Coal dealers in Sebring's early years were Noah Pugh, Palermo Brothers, and Ira Wallace, in more recent years, J. W. Hoopes, Raymond Post and A. R. Eells. After Mr. Pugh's death, about 1939, Mr. Hoopes purchased the Pugh coal yard and these last three named are today's coal dealers.

## RETAILING IN SEBRING

### DRY GOODS - MILLINERY - NOTIONS

As Sebring developed, retail business expanded. A Sebring paper of 1901 announced Edward Oliver adding a dry goods department to his already established grocery store in the location where Herman's store now operates. The three-story building was known as the "Victoria" block.

When Oliver added the grocery department he used the north room in the Victoria block, where Eastham now operates. Mr. Oliver later moved his merchandise to the south room of the Katzenstein block, corner of East Pennsylvania avenue and there closed it out, going into the sand business at Warwick, Ohio, which plant he organized in 1908, as the Oliver Silica Sand Company. Soon after, the McBains moved their notion and dry goods store, which they had opened about 1904-5 in a room further south on 15th street to the Oliver room and continued in business until about 1918.

About three or four years after the founding of Sebring, Mrs. M. A. Guyton opened a notions and ready-to-wear and dry goods store in the F. A. Sebring building on the east side of 15th street. In January, 1911, the Hermans arrived in town after having purchased the Guyton business and continued the business at the same location until 1919, in which year they bought the Victoria block and moved their business into this building. In 1920 a devastating fire destroyed their building and others around to, and including the Sebring Times building on West Ohio avenue. With courage and confidence in Sebring, Hermans rebuilt with their new substantial brick building. The Herman store has continued in business until the present time, carrying a very substantial stock of dry goods and ready-to-wear merchandise.

About 1914 Mr. V. E. Bower opened a variety store in the present Marshall sport shop. In September, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Brueggeman purchased the Bower business and continued it through 1921, Walter spending a couple of years touring Europe, and especially Italy, during World War I. In 1921 they purchased the building now occupied by Ashton 5c to \$1.00 store and moved their business and continued shop there until 1945 when he sold to Mr. Ashton who greatly remodeled and modernized the store. Mr. Brueggeman still owns the building.

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### THE LEONARD HARDWARE CO.

The pioneer in the Hardware, Plumbing and Roofing business was H. G. Leonard, who was operating a plumbing business in Salem in 1899.

With L. R. Emmet Lee as his Sebring manager a substantial business soon was developed, beginning in '99. By 1902 Mr. Leonard foresaw greater possibilities in Sebring and formed a partnership with E. B. Fritchman and C. R. Oesch. In 1904 Sumner Oesch succeeded his brother Clark and remains in the business at this writing. 1906 found C. P. Coulter an employee and now one of the owners. The business was incorporated in 1918. All buildings occupied by the company are company owned.

The following roll call of employees from early days will be interesting to old timers:

Harry Earley, Calvin Earley, Dick Scott, I. James Earley, Thos. Richards, Wm. McClaren, Geo. Sharpnack, Chauncy Older, Wm. Crumrine, Harry Little, Jacob Harroff, Geo. Cardinal, Owen Pottorf, Frank Delzell, Ralph Pretty, Howard Earley, Wm. Koontz, Chick McDaniels, Monroe Biery, Louis Sanderson, Elza Wharff, Virgil Swihart, John Knecht, David Bestwick, Owen Edwards, Joe White, Stewart Johnson, David D. Reed, Edna Biery Streit, Minnie Zwahlen Woods, Alta Patterson Turney, Dorothy Schrom Bailey.

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### THE SEBRING HDWE. AND PLUMBING CO.

May 15, 1923, was the opening day for the Sebring Hardware and Plumbing Co., incorporated by George Windle, his son Earl C., and George Cardinal, and occupying the room next to the Citizens Banking Company's building. Five years later Mr. Cardinal withdrew from the business.

The firm now occupies its own buildings since 1938, known as the K. of P. building. In 1935 Ray Henry became general manager and in 1936 T. D. Keenan came in as store and office manager.

Very extensive operations in hardware, plumbing and heating have kept a substantial force constantly employed. An incomplete roster of employees not mentioned above includes:

Owen Pottorf, Ray Weldy, Robert Rinehart, Otis Waugh, John Kolsear, David Dougherty, Robert Bennett, Owen Edwards, Jr., and Pat LeFevre.

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### GEO. CARDINAL AND SONS

Having served his apprenticeship at Leonard Hardware Company, Geo. Cardinal operated a plumbing business from 1919 to 1923. During the years 1923-1927 Cardinal was co-founder of the Sebring Hardware and Plumbing Company. However, in 1927 he withdrew and operated a plumbing business of his own and has continued up to the present time. During the years he has had the competent services of his sons, Louis, George, Robert and Kenneth. The latter three are associated with his at the present time.

## RETAIL FURNITURE

### Allen Brothers

John C. Allen and A. S. Allen (known as Sid) opened a retail furniture store in Sebring in October, 1905. Located in the E. H. Sebring building, corner of Ohio avenue and 15th street, known as the Mahoning block. John C. Allen was active manager, and the store was run under the name of Allen Brothers.

In 1921 John C. Allen, Sr., purchased the Katzenstein building at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 15th street, at which date he moved to the new location, where he managed the store until his death in 1943.

After the death of John C. Allen, Sr., the store passed into the hands of John Allen, Jr., and is operated under the name of "Allen's".

### Coffman and Yothers

Maurice Coffman and A. F. Yothers opened a retail furniture store here in 1923. Located at 125 West Ohio avenue in a building erected for that purpose. The store was run under the name of Coffman & Yothers until 1942 when ownership was assumed by Maurice Coffman and it is now under name of the Coffman Furniture Store.

In 1946 part ownership was purchased by a son-in-law, T. L. Smail, and a son, James C. Coffman, who now operate and manage the store.

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### WILLIAM STEWART

No history of Sebring would be complete without mention of the name of William (Bill) Stewart, who operated a furniture store in the late teens and early twenties, first in an old frame building, corner of Fifteenth and Oregon, which was torn down and replaced by the Bert Baer building, now occupied by the Crystal Bar. He then moved into the old livery barn in the rear of that building and later into the room now housing the LeFevre and Shoar insurance agencies, where he called his store the "Wonder" store. Stewart was one of the town's unique characters of those days, formerly doing missionary work in Egypt, a born trader, knowing how to look after No. 1, very religious, with a creed embodying many original ideas, but always a hustler. He moved to Warren from Sebring and staged a 30-day hunger strike rather than submit to what he believed to be an unfair interference with his rights.

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### SEBRING JEWELERS

Early in Sebring's infancy the possibility for a jewelry business was sensed by Edward Learch, who was Sebring's first jeweler. He came here from Canton in 1901, as attested by his photo in the Sebring Times.

Dates are uncertain, hence not always authentic. After Learch, Mr. A. R. Noble vended jewelry till 1908, when he sold his business to A. J. Shreve who operated from November, 1908, to December, 1909. The next jeweler seen through the dim maze, was M. I. Kirkman, who disposed of his business to Henry and Gilbert Ostermeier who operated from 1920 through 1923. Henry, taking over his brother, Gilbert's, share, operated from 1923 to 1926, selling then to Mr. W. Webb. In 1928 Webb sold to John Schullie, his son-in-law. H. R. Rector appears in the jewelry picture about 1926 to 1936, opening up in the room now occupied by Bob Vogel. Gilbert Ostermeier again returned to the business in 1936, buying Rector's store fixtures and moving them to his present room in the McConnell building, Rector continuing his optical business for several years in the Henry building near the Pennsylvania Railroad. Within the last couple of years Ostermeier has completely refurnished his store and now has a most inviting jewelry store, strictly modern.

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### SEBRING BEAUTY PARLORS

The first beauty parlor in Sebring was opened by Mrs. Catherine Falls in the early nineteen twenties. She was associated with her daughter, Verda Drayer, who finally closed out the business about 1940.

The next beauty parlor was opened by Mrs. Letta McBride on South Fifteenth street, July 1, 1929. Mrs. McBride is still in business.

In 1929, Mrs. Julia Haberland opened her beauty parlor and is still operating the business at her home on the corner of Maryland avenue and Sixteenth street.

About the same time, Mrs. Bertha Meek entered the beauty parlor business at her home on West Oregon avenue. She is still operating her business.

The next beauty parlor was opened in 1937 in the Robson building by Mrs. Schoonover and Violet Brown, of Akron, under the name of the "Black and Silver Beauty Parlor," and the business was closed out a year or two later.

Mary Vivian opened her beauty parlor in 1938 with a temporary location in the Pool block, later moving to the room vacated by the Sebring Hardware and Plumbing Company next to the Bank building. Some years later, having married Joseph Gaither, she moved the beauty parlor to her home on the corner of West Oregon avenue and sixteenth street where she is still operating.

About the time the "Black and Silver" closed out, Miss Dixon, of Beloit, opened a beauty parlor where Walter Buehlert's barber shop is now located and was quite busy until she married and moved her equipment away.

In October, 1946, Mrs. Helen Reynolds opened a beauty parlor on Fifteenth street in the building formerly occupied by the Ohio Public Service Company and has a very successful business.

The newest beauty parlor was opened in 1948 on West Indiana avenue by Mrs. Alice Toban.

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### BARBER SHOP HISTORY

The first barber shop in Sebring was owned and operated by Eva Bard in a building on the lot where Deemer's store is located. The shop was later moved to the Ashton store location and in 1903 was sold to William Jones, who barbered in various locations in Sebring until his retirement, about 1940.

In the fall of 1901, Mark Wise opened the second barber shop on Ohio Avenue, where the Ohio Public Service Company office is located. The shop was moved in June, 1902, to a part of the Ted and Bill building and was sold that summer to H. L. McConnell, who took possession on September 2, 1902. Mr. McConnell has operated his shop continuously since that date, thus making this business the oldest in Sebring under one management. M. D. (Jell) Jacobs was a partner with Mr. McConnell for a short time previous to 1915. The shop was moved to its present location in June, 1920.

There is some doubt whether F. O. Brooks or Hugh Simpson started the next barber shop. However, Mr. Brooks did start a shop about 1914 or 1915 where the Troy Laundry agency is now located and was burned out when the building burned in 1920. The shop operated for a time in the basement under the Turner Drug Store corner and was later moved to the room now occupied by Victor Herold. Mr. Brooks later sold to George Boyle who sold to Walter Buehlert, and he in turn to Victor Herold, who has been in business here for twenty years.

Hugh Simpson started a shop about the same period as Mr. Brooks and for a time was associated with Arthur (Red) Fullerton. The shop was finally closed because of Mr. Fullerton's failing health.

Jack Young came to Sebring to work for Mr. Fullerton and in 1920 opened a shop in the room which was vacated by H. L. McConnell. Mr. Young has barbered in Sebring continuously since coming here, either as an employer or employee.

Walter Buehlert came to Sebring to work for Jack Young in 1920 and after buying the old Brooks shop from Mr. Boyle and selling to Mr. Herold, went back to work for Mr. Young. In the middle twenties Mr. Boyle returned to Sebring from the West and bought Mr. Young's shop. Following Mr. Boyle's death, Mr. Buehlert again entered business for himself and is still operating one of the shops in Sebring.

The baby of the profession in Sebring is Edwin Seitz who opened a shop in the Sebring Hotel building in August, 1948.

### RESTAURANTS OF SEBRING

The needs of the inner man have brought to Sebring several restaurants through the years.

At the stand now occupied by A. P. Calderone, memory goes back to Warren and Ed Hartzell, Earl Carlisle, Frank Falkenburg, A. P. Mercer and N. Oliver, as proprietors.

The Olivers had been operating a confectionery in the Windle building about 1915 and from there took over Mercer's restaurant, then moved to the Allen building, and in 1921 bought at 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue, where they operated off and on until July 4, 1945 when they sold to Mr. Charles Tausch, who now enjoys a very good business and has one of the principal eating places in Sebring.

Other places deserving mention include Mrs. Ann Bailey, who ran a restaurant where the Building and Loan now operates; the "White Palace," next to the Strand theatre, whose owners built the building in 1922 and have occupied it as a restaurant and confectionery since that date; the "Spot," another more recent eating place which has been under several managers.

The room occupied by the Turner drug store was for many years a popular eating place. Names associated here were Dick Colvin, Tom Erb, the Reitlers.

Mrs. Agnes Schrom and Freda Krug bought out Mr. Chase in part of the Stackhouse building, and later moved across into the Ewing block, operating as the Leader Lunch from 1928 to 1939. This was sold to H. K. Newhouse, who operated until 1942, when he sold to Mrs. Ethel Bryarly, who ran it from May, 1945, until January, 1946. For a short time A. E. Baddeley ran this restaurant. In December, 1946, Mrs. Bryarly took back the business and sold to Wayne and Mary Woolf, in 1947. Others operating for a year or so were Ethel Moore, Ruby Winget and E. W. Lyons. The business closed in November, 1948.

Nell's restaurant was a very busy eating place, located in the Leonard Hardware Company room now used by Tamar Thumm as a real estate office.

And, who remembers Jimmy Pier and his little cubby hole restaurant operated back in 1918 to 1920?

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### NATURAL GAS

For ten years after Sebring became a town it was without natural gas, the first being piped into the village by the Natural Gas Company of West Virginia, who still hold the only franchise and have supplied domestic and industrial needs since 1910. All pottery kilns are now fired by gas, with oil as auxiliary fuel. The local office is on East Ohio avenue.

## SEBRING GARAGES

The sales and servicing of automobiles passed through many stages in Sebring history. This memo will list them individually, not necessarily in their proper place as to time.

Sebring's first garage was operated by Emerson and Fred Stanley in the present Sebring Times building, selling the Brisco, Allen and Oldsmobile until about 1917, selling then to Mr. Courtney who took on the Dodge agency. Following Courtney was Harry Peterson and father, selling Chevrolet cars. This agency was moved to a new building built by Peterson, now occupied by Joseph Gibbs. Following Peterson in the Times building was Lyle Harris from Lisbon, who continued with Model T Fords until he sold the Ford agency to Russ Courtney.

The Sebring Motor Company was organized in 1916 and built the building now occupied by the Oroz agency, and in 1924 doubled the size to the west. The business of selling Model T Fords was conducted by E. R. Coleman, who through the years was associated with Al Stroup and J. A. McBain. They continued selling Fords until 1925 when they obtained the Chrysler and Plymouth agency, selling the building and agency on November 8, 1947, to Frank Oroz who operates the same at the present time.

About 1928 Kuntzman Brothers built the present garage building at Ohio avenue and 20th street and sold Chevrolet cars until 1935 when they sold their building and business to the Millner Motor Company, operated by William Millner, who continues to sell Chevrolet cars.

At the corner of Ohio avenue and 16th street the Ohio Avenue Motor Company built a garage 50 by 150 ft., William Stanley and Thomas Erb operating the same. Later H. W. Crankshaw took over Erb's interests. For 12 years, until 1931, they sold Willys-Overland, Studebaker and Gardner, and again Willys-Overland, in order named. The disastrous fire of 1931 completely destroyed the building and contents, 47 cars being consumed in this, one of Sebring's most disastrous fires. The company closed its business following the fire.

Paul Agnew built a garage building on East Ohio avenue in the early 20's, and operated an agency for a few years.

Merrick Bros. in 1924 began an auto agency in the Hall Machine Company building, selling Oakland cars. The years 1926-37 found the Merricks using the Agnew building, having purchased it in 1926. Through these years they distributed Pontiac cars in Sebring.

The records would not be complete without mentioning a very familiar character, Mr. George C. Elliott, who built the building next to the Coffman furniture store and maintained a service and sales establishment for bicycles and motorcycles.

## SEBRING DRAYMEN AND TRUCKMEN

The following is the list of men who have driven the drays and trucks that have so well served Sebring industries, business houses and individuals during the first half century of its existence, from 1899 to 1949:

Rube Goddard, Scott Robinson, George Leasure, John Ostermeier, Noah Pugh, Walter Davis, Harvey Hoskinson, William Higgins, Ed Woolf, Jasper Smith, Elza Wharff, Ron Wilson, Lawrence Goodman, Herbert Wayt, Kenny Wayt.

## THE CLOTHING BUSINESS

Sebring's clothing stores now number two, the Bob Vogel store in the Leonard Hardware building and Ted and Bill's in the McConnell building. Both are well equipped stores catering to the clothing needs of men and boys, with limited lines for ladies. The Ted and Bill store also carries a line of shoes. The Herman Drv Goods Co. carries hats and many articles for the ladies.

Stores started here specializing on ladies' wear have not proved very successful. Stores that operated here in the past but are no more, include the Baer store, for which Bert Baer built the block on the corner of Oregon avenue and Fifteenth street; C. A. Kelly, at first in the Knight block and later in the room now housing the Shoar and LeFevre insurance agencies; Schwartz store, in the Knight block; the June Waisner ladies' store; and the Fashion, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock. Mahlen Griffith built up quite an extensive trade and operated a popular store in the McConnell building, now the Ted & Bill store.

## DRUGGISTS

### L. A. BANDY

Lewis A. Bandy, graduated from University of Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1907. He came here from Homestead, Pa., in 1912, was in the drug business in Sebring from 1912 to 1943.

### TURNER'S

Turner Drug Co. is one of a small chain of drug stores owned and operated by "Tuck" Turner, of Alliance. It has been located at the corner of Ohio avenue and Fifteenth street for the past five or six years.

### BUCKEYE DRUG CO.

The Buckeye Drug Co. was operated by Louis Hotchstettler, who came to Sebring from Pittsburgh in July, 1900. He sold the drug business to Milo Mowery, who sold to J. M. "Jerry" Hazen, who recently sold to Paul Gromel, who came here from Canton, Ohio, in 1947.

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Samuel Hoon and Wilbur Hoon came here from East Palestine, Ohio, and now are in business at Warren, Ohio.

## GROCERIES

Sebring boasts its share of modern groceries and markets who see to it that nobody goes hungry. At the present time there are no chain groceries in the town, all being home owned and managed. On the south side of the tracks are the South Side Market, Palermo and Sharp proprietors; the Cut Rate Market, owned by James Charles; Quaker Hill Grocery, owned by Cosmo Fierro; and the Tuel Market, Mr. and Mrs. George Tuel, proprietors. In the main business district are the Hitchcock Market, owned by Mary and Jennie Hitchcock; C. & P. Market, property of Clifford Daugherty and Pete Hesser; Clyde Eastham's Market; the Joe Calderone Market; the Hartzell Market, and the Wilson Bros. Market. A. L. Campbell operates an I. G. A. Market on Oregon avenue and Jules Bert conducts a grocery in connection with his filling station at the corner of Ohio avenue and Johnson road.

Looking back over the years many familiar names appear as owners of groceries here. John B. Stackhouse and two sons were proprietors of the first grocery here. It is recorded that when they held their grand opening in 1900 the cash register at night showed only \$6.70 in sales. Other pioneer grocers included John B. Hall on the corner now occupied by the Burchfield store; Ed Oliver in the Victoria block; Hunter & Flentke, Henry Heisher, and others.

In more recent years Clyde Oliver, Daryman Bros., Call Pettay, H. W. Crankshaw, Peter Zorlenzan, the Flory Market, T. D. Mitcheltree, Sam Brown, the Tanners, Harvey Hoskinson, Frank Cartwright, and James Yothers have taken more or less serious flings at the business.

The markets are all now well equipped and capably manned to give the trade the highest quality of service.

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### TUEL'S WEST END GROCERY

Tuel's West End grocery opened for business October 11, 1935, in its present location on the corner of New York avenue and 20th street.

It is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. George Tuel, who have been residents of Sebring for thirty-seven years.. Mr. and Mrs. Tuel moved to Sebring from Bellaire in May of 1912. Mr. Tuel was employed at The Strong plant and was one of Strong's many employees who located in Sebring when the factory moved here.

Tuel's West End grocery is one of the smallest groceries in town but it is also one of the busiest, catering to a neighborhood trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Tuel give much of the credit of the success of their business to their daughters, Margaret, Ruth and Zelma.

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### BOWLING IN SEBRING

Bowling came to Sebring early in the history of the village. In 1901 or 1902 Ammon and Frank

Metzel opened the first alleys at 126 East Oregon avenue, the present location, in a building that was built for that purpose. They had 2 alleys and 3 pool tables. They sold out after a couple of years to Charles Dawson, who in turn sold to Burt "Doc" Hosler and Clarence Miller. In the meantime, Ed Williams installed two bowling alleys in the Katzenstein building, now the Allen Furniture Company. After Williams died these alleys were taken over by Jake Cook and Walter Crewson. After a short period Cook sold out to Crewson, and a third alley was installed. Hosler and Miller dissolved partnership and Crewson moved in with Hosler, under the firm name of Hosler and Crewson.

A new building was built in the rear, and the five alleys were installed in that building. After a number of years Hosler sold his interest to Lee Shively Jr., who, after a short period sold his interest to Crewson, who from then on had the business alone.

In 1926 fire completely destroyed the bowling alley building, leaving the front building intact. A new building was built and eight alleys were installed by the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company, whose agent at that time said he did not believe there was another town the size of Sebring in the entire country with eight alleys.

Crewson ran the business until 1946, selling to Albert Leighton, who now operates it.

---O---

### ROLLER RINK

Roller skating, always a popular recreation everywhere, has not had a brilliant career in Sebring. For several years prior to the 20's, a rink owned by Lou Kuntzman furnished thrills and spills for the youth, but it never took the town by storm, and when it was destroyed by fire in the 20's there was not enough demand to justify rebuilding. Mr. Kuntzman drifted into the wholesale candy business and did some retailing during the war.

---O---

### ICE CREAM

In the year 1922, or thereabouts, Tom Akenhead conceived the idea of manufacturing ice cream for retail trade and wholesaling in a limited way. Using a room on the southside formerly occupied by Cal Pettay, he operated for several years, and then purchased the building originally occupied by N. W. Kistler, the tailor, and converted it into a factory and confectionery. So good was Akenhead's ice cream that several other retail outlets were secured and the business grew rapidly. In 1946 Mr. Akenhead chose to retire from the business and it was bought by his son, Robert, and Alton Bandy. After a year, Mr. Bandy sold to his partner, who now owns and operates the business as his own. The fame and name of Akenhead's ice cream continue and the business keeps several employees busy.

# The Professions

## ATTORNEYS

### H. R. EWING

Attorney H. R. Ewing was a graduate of Ohio Northern university in the class of 1897. He came to Sebring in March, 1900, from Youngstown and took the position of attorney for the Sebring Land Co. and also conducted a general law practice. He was in Sebring from 1900 until his death in 1927.

### ALVIN BAKER

Attorney Alvin Baker was a graduate of the Law School at Ada, Ohio, class of 1895. He came here from Lisbon, Ohio, May, 1901, and succeeded in building a good law practice.

### DONALD SEIPEL

Attorney Donald Seipel came to Sebring from Canton, Ohio, February, 1927. He took over Mr. Ewing's law practice. Left here about 1932. He went to Canton, Ohio.

### JOHN A. REDDY

Attorney John A. Reddy is a graduate of Harvard College Law School, in the class of 1929. Came here from Warren, O., in 1932 and still practicing in Sebring.

### H. L. KATTMAN

Attorney H. L. Kattman graduated from the Ohio Northern College in the class of 1929. He came to Sebring in 1938, still in practice here.

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## THE M. D.'s

### F. S. HAGGART, M. D.

Dr. F. S. Haggart was the first physician to locate in Sebring, coming here October 15, 1899. He purchased two lots on Fifteenth street, upon one of which during the spring of 1901 he erected his dwelling. Upon the other he built two store-rooms, one of which was occupied as an office. Dr. Haggart was also the first village clerk.

### DR. CROUSE

Dr. Crouse, a graduate of the University of Baltimore, came to Sebring from Beloit in April, 1900. He built a residence on the corner of Maryland avenue and Sixteenth street.

### J. B. KLINGENSMITH, M. D.

Dr. J. B. Klingensmith, a native of Leechburg, Pa., was a graduate of Western University of Pennsylvania in 1901. He came to Sebring and purchased two lots on West Ohio avenue on which he built his office and residence, where he lived and practiced medicine until his death in 1930.

### CHARLES C. JONES, M. D.

A graduate of Denison University and the Ohio Medical University, Dr. Charles C. Jones began his professional career at Portsmouth, O., remaining there for three years. He then moved to Sebring, where he practiced for four years. In 1906 he moved to Canton, O., and continued in general practice until his death.

### J. B. WILKINSON, M. D.

Dr. J. B. Wilkinson was graduated from the Cleveland Medical College in 1903 at the age of twenty. He took the West Virginia State Board examination and practiced in Parkersburg for 3 years. In 1906 he came to Sebring. His office was in a building on West Ohio avenue, which was located on the vacant lot now owned by the city just west of the Sebring Motor Company. He moved to Alliance in 1915, and is now located in the Citizens Bank building.

### S. U. SIVON, M. D.

Dr. S. U. Sivon came to Sebring in 1913. He moved to Ravenna in 1915, where he is now practicing.

### G. Y. DAVIS, M. D.

Graduated from Western Reserve University in 1900, Dr. G. Y. Davis was first located in Minerva, Ohio. He came to Sebring in 1909 and practiced here until 1930, when he moved to Youngstown and became Mahoning County Health Commissioner, later dying in that city.

### N. S. REED, M. D.

Dr. N. S. Reed was born and reared in Belaire, Ohio. He was graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1910, served his residency at Allegheny County Hospital, and practiced in Pennsylvania until World War I. He served for two years as Captain in the Army Medical Corps. In 1919 he came to Sebring and practiced here until 1924. He then accepted an appointment with the Cleveland Welfare Department for seven and a half years. He is now engaged in general practice at Caldwell, Ohio.

### E. C. LOUTHAN, M. D.

Dr. E. C. Louthan was born in Columbiana County. He was graduated from Starling Medical College with the Class of 1901. He came to Sebring in 1925 and is now located at 185 West Ohio avenue.

### O. J. STEVENSON, M. D.

A graduate of Baltimore Medical College in 1910, Dr. O. J. Stevenson practiced in Pennsylvania until 1931, when he moved to Sebring. He returned to Beaver, Pennsylvania, in 1938.

### **L. C. COUCHMAN, M. D.**

Dr. L. C. Couchman was graduated from Ohio State University in 1931 and served his internship in Youngstown City Hospital. He came to Sebring in 1932, practiced here five years, and then returned to Youngstown.

### **E. T. McCUNE, M. D.**

Dr. E. T. McCune was born in Gallery, Pa. He received his B. S. degree from Geneva College in 1929 and his M. D. degree from Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan, in 1938. After serving his internship at Deaconess Hospital, Detroit, he opened his office in Sebring in September, 1938. In 1941 he entered the army and served in the Pacific theatre from May, 1942, until March, 1945. He reopened his office in Sebring in April, 1949.

### **J. H. SMITH, M. D.**

Dr. J. H. Smith was born on a farm south of Westville Lake. He was graduated from the University of Louisville, Kentucky, in 1935, and spent one year as an interne in Elyria Memorial Hospital, one year in Aultman Hospital, Canton, and one year in Massillon State Hospital. He came to Sebring in 1938, and is located at 236 East Ohio avenue.

### **EVAN C. FOWLER, M. D.**

Born and reared in Sebring, Dr. Evan C. Fowler received his A. B. degree from Ohio State University in 1933 and his M. D. degree from the University of St. Louis School of Medicine in 1937. He served his internship at Youngstown Northside Hospital in 1937 and 1938. In July 1938 he opened his office in Sebring and practiced here until he entered the army as a First Lieutenant, in Sebruary, 1941. After his discharge from the army, he re-entered practice in Sebring in March, 1946, and is located in the First National Bank building.

### **A. T. ATKINSON, M. D.**

Dr. A. T. Atkinson was graduated from Ohio State University and came to Sebring in 1941. Her office was located at 125 West Indiana avenue. She moved to Quimby, Michigan in 1946.

### **COUNTY NURSES**

The Mahoning County Board of Health organized the service for Sebring in 1922. Since that time the following nurses have served Sebring:

1922-23, Miss Caroline Jordan; 1923-26, Miss Lenore Sterr; 1926-29, Miss Elizabeth Mills; 1929, Mrs. Myrtle Herrick; 1929-34, Mrs. Ruth Eardley; 1934 and present, Miss Elva Boyer.

### **CHIROPRACTORS**

#### **ANNA J. AND BRICELY O. LEE, D. C.**

Dr. Anna J. Lee and Dr. Bricely O. Lee were both graduated from the Universal College of Chiropractics, of Pittsburgh, in 1922. They came to Sebring in that year and located at 155 East Ohio avenue, where they are now practicing.

#### **L. H. STROBLE, D. C.**

Dr. L. H. Stroble was graduated from Lincoln College, Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1938. He came to Sebring in 1939 and practiced here until he joined the army in January, 1941. He received his discharge in January, 1945. After taking post-graduate work, he located in Youngstown.

#### **MARY E. SCHAEFER, D. C.**

Dr. Mary E. Schaefer was graduated from the National College of Chicago in 1942 and practiced in Alliance for one year. She served with the WAVES for two and a half years. Upon her return from service she located in Sebring in 1946 at 313 North Fifteenth street.

#### **DR. THOMAS**

No accurate records have been found, but many will remember genial and jovial Dr. Thomas, the first chiropractor to practice in Sebring. He had his office in the rooms over Kelly's store, now Sebring's "Insurance Center." He was succeeded by another very jovial practitioner in the person of J. M. Figley, D. C., who occupied the same office. Both went to Akron from Sebring.

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### **DENTISTS**

#### **ALGERNON PAYNE, D. D. S.**

Dr. Algernon Payne came to Sebring from Cleveland, O., and opened his office in the rooms of Dr. Haggart in 1901. He was a graduate of Western Reserve College.

#### **J. F. McCAMANT, D. D. S.**

Dr. J. F. McCamant, a graduate of Cincinnati Dental College, came to Sebring in 1901 from Niles, Ohio. He purchased a lot on West Ohio avenue and built a two-story residence and office.

#### **W. F. SANFORD, D. D. S.**

Dr. W. F. Sanford was graduated from Cincinnati Dental College in 1902. He came to Sebring the same year, locating on the second floor of the building on the northeast corner of Ohio avenue and Fifteenth street. He later moved to office rooms in the First National Bank building. In 1919 he moved to Alliance.

#### **F. E. LITTLE, D. D. S.**

Another graduate of Cincinnati Dental College, Dr. F. E. Little came to Sebring from Waterford, Ohio, in 1914, and located in the Akenhead building on West Ohio avenue. He moved to Massillon in 1917.

### **E. M. SHEEHAN, D. D. S.**

Dr. E. M. Sheehan was graduated from Ohio State Dental College in 1918 and came to Sebring in 1919, succeeding Dr. Sanford with his office in the then Citizens Bank building. In 1920 he moved to Alliance, locating in the Citizens Bank building in rooms he now occupies.

### **A. M. OVERLANDER, D. D. S.**

Dr. A. M. Overlander was graduated from Ohio State University in 1928 and came to Sebring the following year, locating in the Knight block, later in the Will Murphy home on West Ohio avenue. He moved to Cleveland in 1947.

### **L. E. CURPHEY, D. D. S.**

Dr. L. E. Curphey, a native of Cleveland, O., received his pre-dental and dental training at Western Reserve University, completed an internship at St. Luke's Hospital, and practiced dentistry in that city for one year preceding World War II. Most of his five years of military service were spent with the First Marine Division of the United States Marine Corps. Dr. Curphey, since his return from the service, is engaged in the practice of dentistry in the First National Bank building.

### **J. M. WARREN, D. D. S.**

Dr. J. M. Warren was born in Washington County, near Marietta, Ohio. He was graduated from the Ohio Medical University Dental School in 1904. He came to Sebring in 1919 from Sugar Creek, Ohio, locating on the corner of West Ohio avenue and Sixteenth street, where he is now practicing.

### **ROY E. ROCK, D. D. S.**

Dr. Roy E. Rock was graduated from Ohio State University in 1920 and came to Sebring in October of that year. In 1928 he moved to Akron and is now located at 312 South Main street.

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### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

The history of funeral service in Sebring is wrapped up in the life story of William Moosman, who was born June 20, 1871, in Parkersburg, W. Va., the eldest son of John and Christina Moosman.

He completed his grade and high school education in the public schools of Parkersburg. At the age of 18 he assumed the management of the West Virginia Brush Factory in Parkersburg, which was then owned by his father. At the age of twenty-one he bought this business from his father and continued to run it for a number of years.

In the spring of 1909 he entered Cincinnati College of Embalming, from which he graduated in 1910.

In April, 1910, he and his family moved to Sebring, establishing his business in the 200 block on the East side of Fifteenth Street in the building then owned by the late George Sebring.

In 1918 the first motor ambulance was used.

In 1919 Mr. Moosman built and moved to the present business location on North Fifteenth Street. In 1936 he remodeled and expanded the property, modernizing all the facilities of the present funeral home.

On January 1, 1945, due to failing health, Mr. Moosman took into his business two of his younger associates thus forming a partnership to be known as the Moosman-Vogt Funeral Home. He retained the office of President with Arthur O. Vogt as manager and Paul Lincke secretary and treasurer. At this time Mr. Moosman retired from active business but maintained a keen interest in the affairs of the community.

After an illness of 17 months Mr. Moosman passed away September 17, 1948, at the family home on North Fifteenth Street.

The business continues to operate as the Moosman-Vogt Funeral Home with his place as president being filled by his widow Mrs. Stella Moosman, Arthur O. Vogt as manager, and Paul Lincke as secretary and treasurer.

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### **FIRST MARRIAGE PERFORMED IN NEW VILLAGE BY EARLY BUSINESS PIONEERS**

On December 24th, Christmas eve, 1900, Carrie M. Weigel and John Frederick Blumenstiel, both former residents of Evansville, Indiana, were married at the home of the groom's brother, the late Charles Blumenstiel, then a potter in the new village of Sebring, Ohio.

The marriage was the first performed within the corporate limits of the newly formed municipality.

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenstiel for years engaged in the operation of one of the early business enterprises of the village, known at that time as the New Method Laundry, located on East Pennsylvania avenue. After a number of years of operation of a successful business at this locality, the business location was changed to 122 West Oregon avenue. Shortly after the New Method Laundry was moved to its new location the old laundry site was destroyed by a disastrous fire which many of the older residents of the village will recall.

John Frederick Blumenstiel, prior to the establishment of his laundry business, had been a potter and was active in the affairs of the Brotherhood of Operating Potters for many years.

Mrs. Carrie M. Blumenstiel for many years was a member of the Board of Education of the Village of Sebring and served as the president of the Board for several terms.

Mr. Blumenstiel died in 1919, leaving surviving him his widow, Carrie M. Blumenstiel, who died in 1934, and four children, Mrs. L. E. Bryan of Sebring, Mrs. Martin Rolf of Springer, New Mexico, and Attorneys J. B. Blumenstiel and O. V. Blumenstiel, partners in the law firm of Blumenstiel, Strong & Blumenstiel, of Alliance.

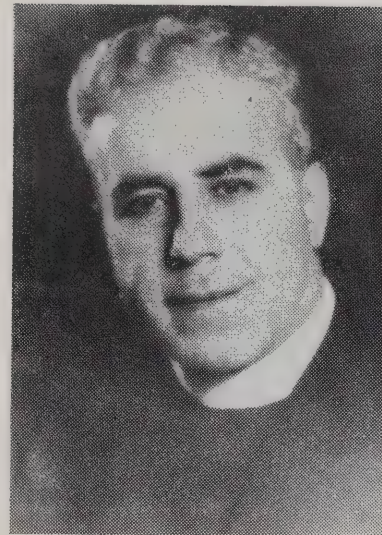
## SEBRING MINISTERS - 1949



**S. S. BURNETT**  
Methodist



**PAUL BAXTER**  
Quaker Hill Friends



**F. J. PETROS**  
St. Ann's



**EDWARD L. WAGNER**  
Trinity Lutheran



**PAUL MAGNUSON**  
Church of Christ

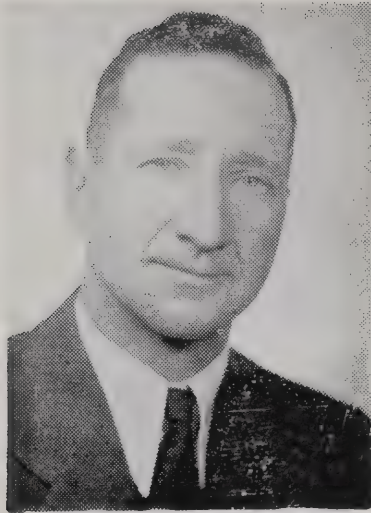


**V. P. MARTIN**  
Presbyterian



**J. I. KROHN**  
United Presbyterian

## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



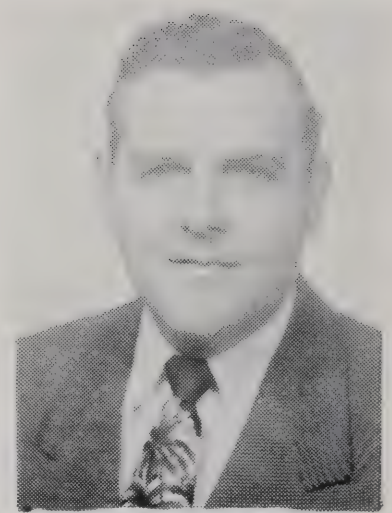
**EARL KITZMILLER**  
Cope Orchards



**FRED BURCHFIELD**  
News Dealer



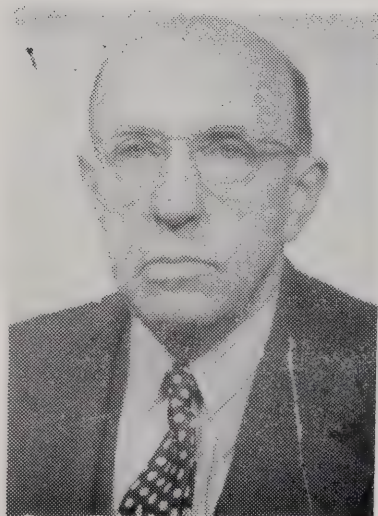
**ALEX MENGES**  
Sebring Times



**JAY DAWSON**  
Deputy Sheriff



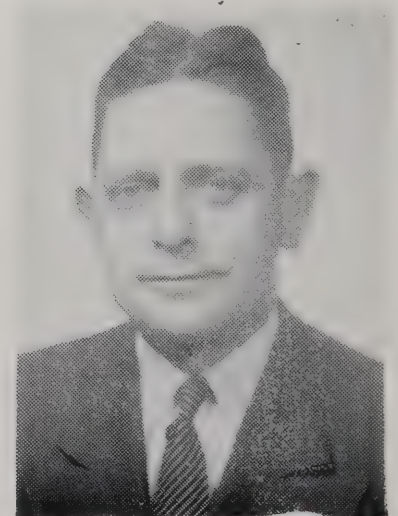
**JOHN REDDY**  
Attorney



**J. E. TORBERT**  
Sebring Times

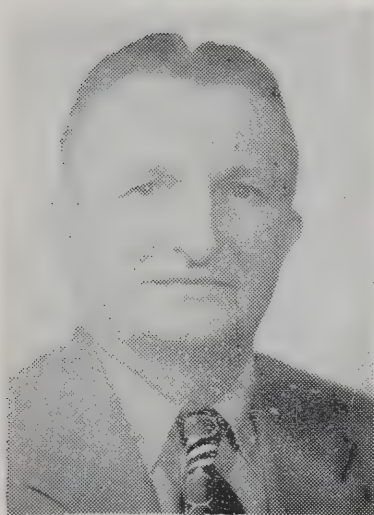


**OLIN SHOAR**  
Insurance

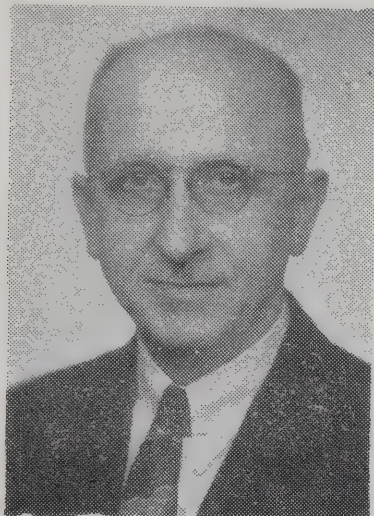


**RAY POORBAUGH**  
Insurance

## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



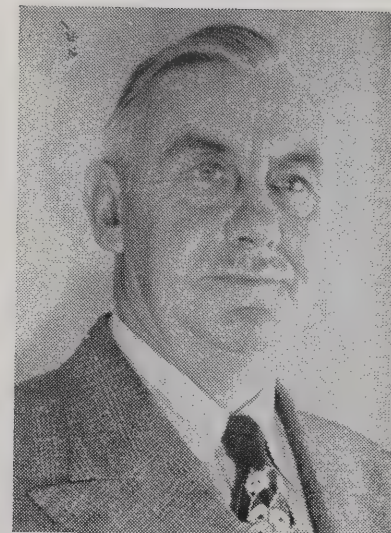
**GEO. GOTTSCHALL**  
Fres. School Board



**SUMNER OESCH**  
Leonard Hardware



**J. M. BADERTSCHER**  
Supt. of Schools



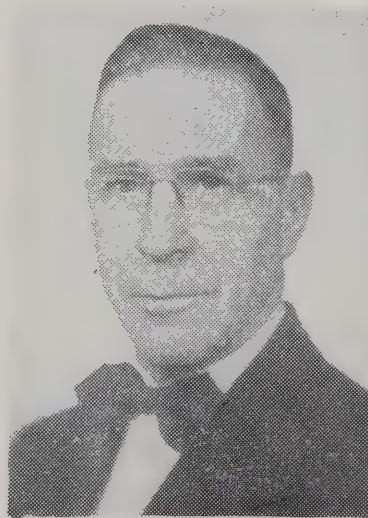
**FRANK CARTWRIGHT**  
Street Commissioner



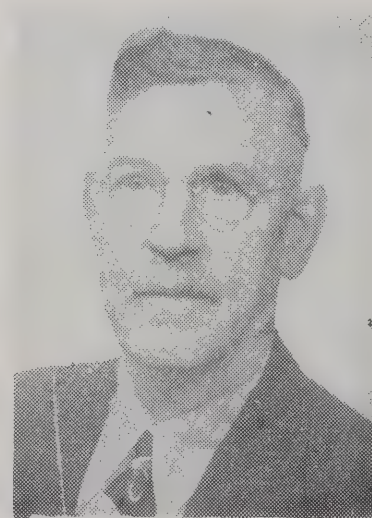
**LEON FORCE**  
Maple Ridge Principal



**L. T. COTTRELL**  
Beloit School Principal

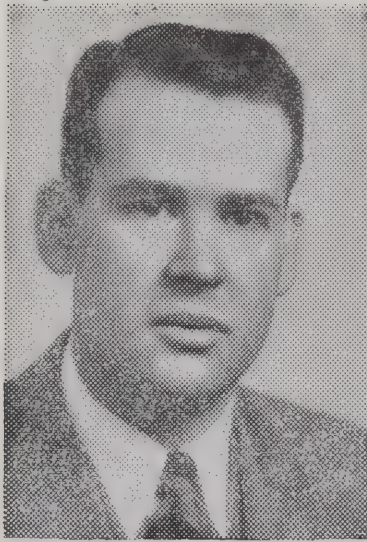


**L. H. GLASS**  
Beloit Mayor



**AL HARMON**

## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



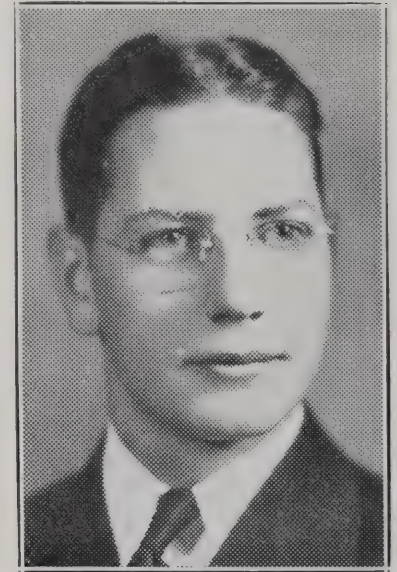
**J. R. SANDERS**  
Sebring Bank



**ROBERT CLAPSADDLE**  
O. P. S.



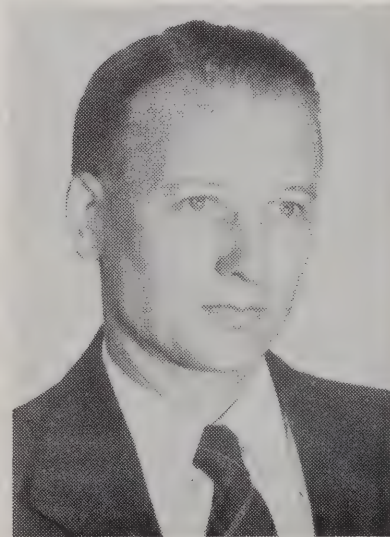
**TUCK TURNER**  
Druggist



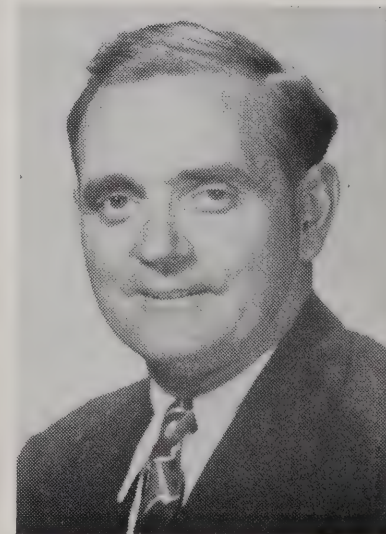
**ARTHUR SPEAKMAN**  
Insurance



**DALE BECKETT**  
President Trades and Labor



**FRANKLIN LeFEVRE**  
Insurance

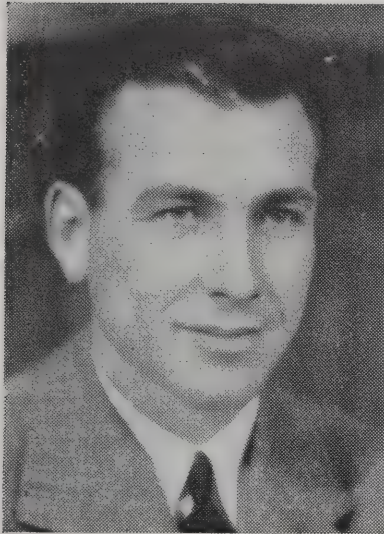


**HERALD HARDING**  
Car Dealer

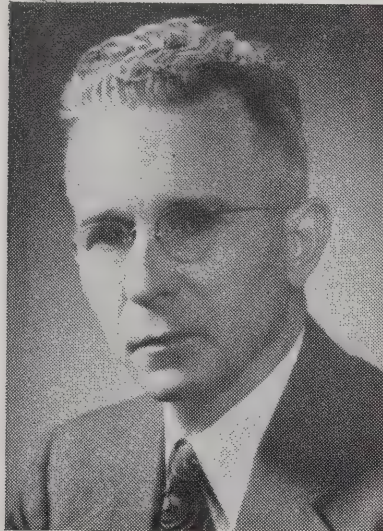


**LES EWING**  
Sebring Lumber

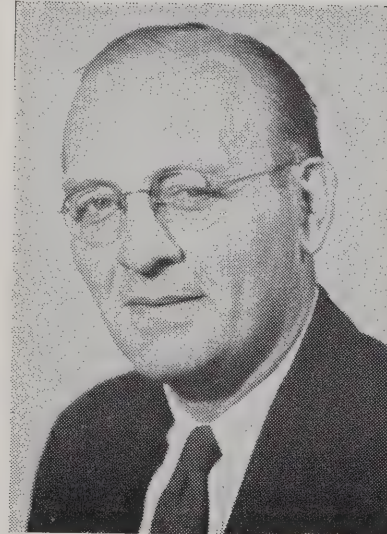
## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



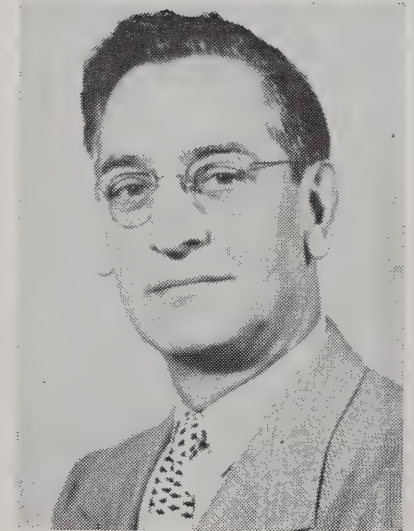
**GAIL WILLIAMS**  
Insurance



**LEE MACK**  
Theatre



**JOHN ALLEN**  
Furniture



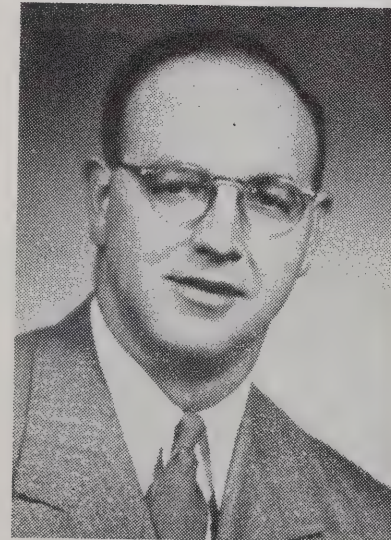
**BOB VOGEL**  
Clothier



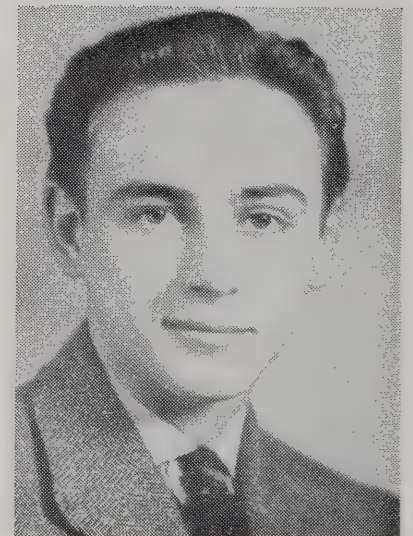
**ERNEST PELIZZARI**  
Welding



**FRANK HERMAN**  
Dry Goods

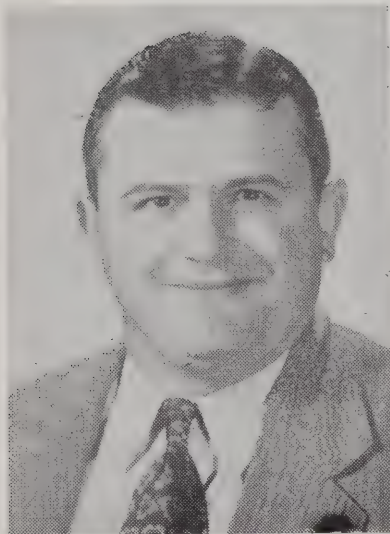


**CHAS. MERCER**  
Gas Station



**JAMES DENIS**  
Restaurant

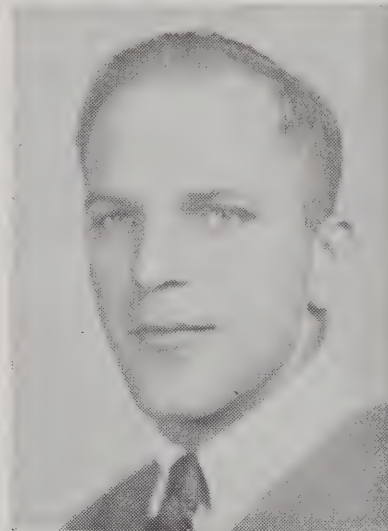
## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



**HARRY CARLI**  
Carli Lumber



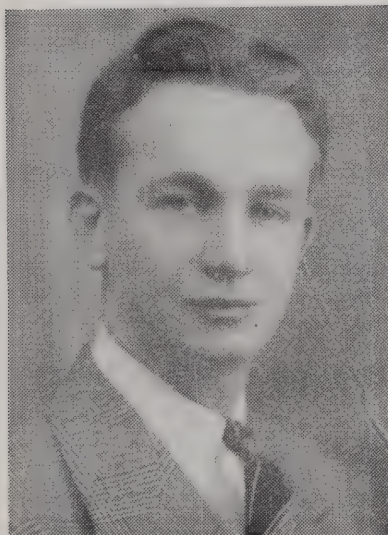
**WM. UNGER**  
Mayor



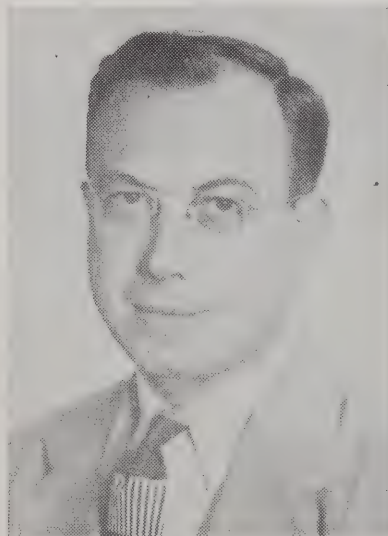
**EDWIN SEITZ**  
Village Clerk



**CLYDE EASTHAM**  
Grocer



**CHESTER**  
Ted & Bill's



**LAWRENCE SHARP**  
Grocer



**JACK BERRY**  
Sebring Times

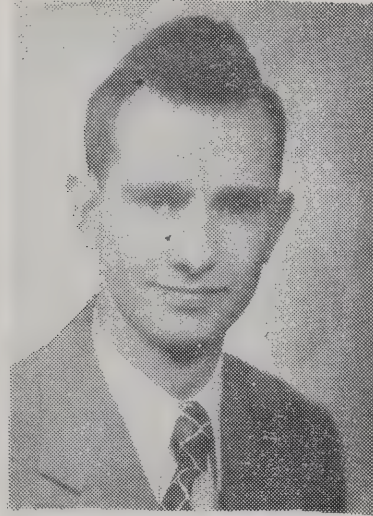


**ROXEY PALERMO**  
Grocer

## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



**WILLIAM MATHISON**  
Shoe Repair



**JAMES COFFMAN**  
Furniture



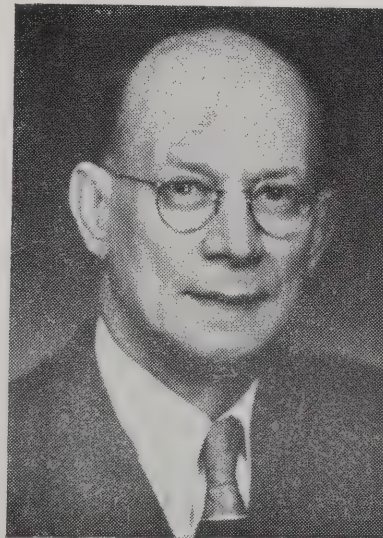
**WALTER IRWIN**  
Lumber



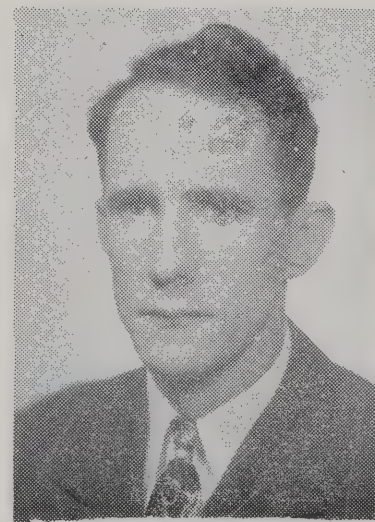
**PAUL CECIL**  
V. F. W. Commander



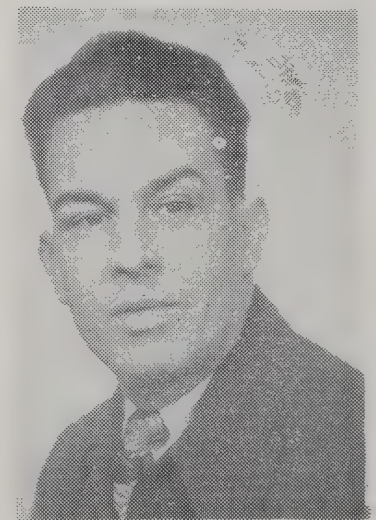
**JOHN COPACEA**  
Taxi



**FRANK TIMMER**

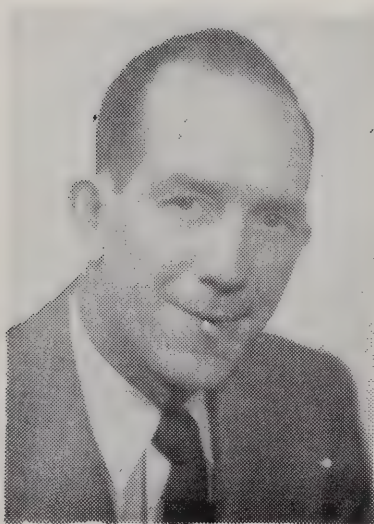


**PAUL MELTON**  
Radio-Television

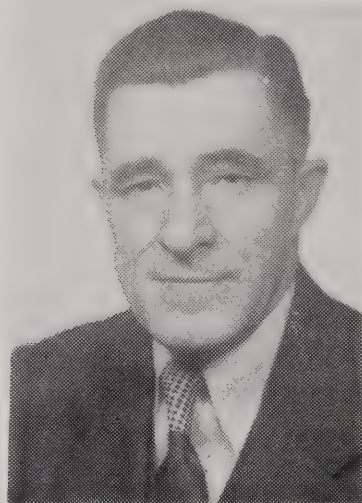


**JACK HARRISON**  
Ted & Bill's

## FAMILIAR FACES AROUND SEBRING -- 1949



**C. C. DAUGHERTY**  
Grocer



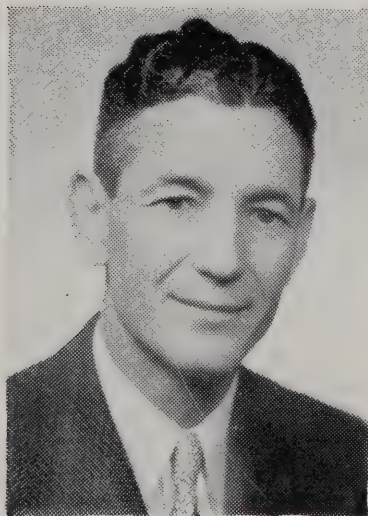
**GILBERT OSTERMEIER**  
Jeweler



**M. F. HESSER**  
Grocer



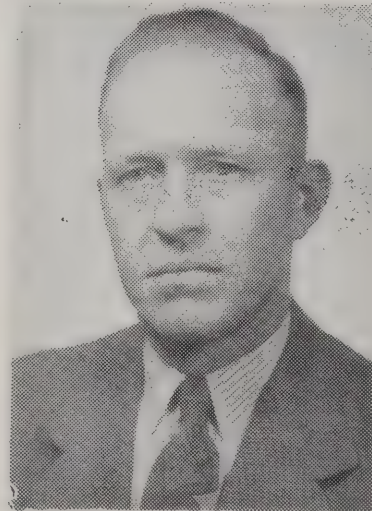
**WILLIAM MILLNER**  
Car Dealer



**WALTER LOWMAN**  
Midland Buckeye



**MICHAEL BIRTHELMER**  
Shoe Repair



**NORMAN BUEHLER**  
Dry Cleaning



**WILLIAM HUNTER**  
Rotary President

# SEBRING'S CHURCHES

## METHODIST CHURCH

On a Sunday morning in September, 1899, the first Methodist church services were held in Sebring. A. E. Albright was instrumental in having Rev. Armstrong of East Palestine, and Dr. G. B. Smith, presiding elder of the Canton district, here for a meeting and a congregation of about two hundred were seated in what was known at that time as Gray's old barn, on the outlines of Fifteenth street. For a year the church flourished in those humble surroundings with Mayor Albright filling the position of pastor and official board combined. In May, 1900, a Sunday school was organized, with Albright as superintendent. The old barn had been seated with some two hundred chairs purchased from the Christian church of East Palestine, and these were usually filled on Sunday morning, so that the need of a regular church edifice soon became evident. Subscription papers were circulated and rapidly signed, and aided by support from the Sebrings, a building committee was formed, consisting of James Harris, George E. Sebring and Rev. R. T. Coursey. A fine church building was soon under way and was completed at a cost of \$20,000 and dedicated on February 27, 1901. It is said the contractors were rushed to get the building ready for the church wedding of Miss Pearl Sebring, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Sebring and Homer Taylor. The church had a seating capacity of 600. The first board of trustees and stewards was composed of John Hunter, George E. Sebring, Ed Hammond, O. H. Sebring, William Tritt, William Flentke, F. A. Sebring, A. E. Albright, B. W. Harris and C. J. Albright. Pastors who have served the church are: A. E. Albright, 1899-1900; Ralph Coursey, 1900-01; Sheridan F. Wood, 1901-2; Morris Floyd, 1902-4; J. V. Orin, 1904-8; A. L. Cook, 1908-9; A. W. Gruber, 1909-12; F. W. Haas, 1912-13; J. L. Vallow, 1913-15; L. R. Akers, 1915-19; J. M. Shafer, 1919-21; M. M. Brown, 1921-22; O. J. Moore, 1922-26; G. A. Gibson, 1926-28; W. H. Bryenton, 1928-30; F. A. Lehn, 1930-36; E. H. Thompson, 1936-39; A. G. Whiteman, 1939-45; S. S. Burnett now serving his fifth year.

In the early days this church was the scene of many great revivals by noted evangelists. Such celebrities as Bishop Henderson, Dr. Henry Howard, famous Australian divine, Homer Rodeheaver and others have visited it in later years.

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## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The First Presbyterian church services in Sebring were held near the close of 1900, in the Y.M.C.A. building, corner of Oregon avenue and Fifteenth street. The prime movers in the organization of a church here were Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Mackintosh, of Sebring, and Rev. W. A. Bass, of Enon Valley, Pa. Presbytery was petitioned on

February 5, 1901 to establish a Presbyterian church here. The Presbytery met in Sebring February 22, 1901, to consider the request. Approximately 35 charter members had been signed up. J. F. Closkey, of Massillon acted as moderator and the following ministers participated: Samuel L. Dickey, Wm. F. McKee, J. F. McCloskey, A. D. Collins, R. A. Carnahan and J. P. Anderson. Elders included H. G. Hammond, North Benton, and W. H. Randolph, Alliance.

The request granted, a contract was given to F. D. Shewell to erect a suitable building on land donated by the Sebring Land Co. expressly for church purposes. A grant of \$1,000 was made to the organization by the Board of Church Election. The cost of the building was \$2497. It was to have a seating capacity of 350, to be heated by a warm air furnace, carpeted, lighted by electricity, and with auditorium type chairs. The cornerstone was laid July 5, 1902 and the new church dedicated November 23, 1902.

Rev. John C. Pickens was called as the first pastor and served from May 6, 1902 to July, 1904. Subsequent pastors have been: George Guichard, October 9, 1904 to October, 1906; C. F. Wiseman, September 2, 1908 to August, 1915; J. Byers Bryce, November 7, 1915 to May, 1918; Joseph I. Gregory, August 4, 1918 to January, 1923; Lyle E. Carr, March 11, 1923 to March, 1929; Paul T. Gerrard, July 28, 1929 to November, 1935; James H. Gillespie, April 12, 1936 to November, 1940; Vernon P. Martin, November 15, 1940, still serving.

A new entrance and vestibule were recently added to the building a few years ago and on Sunday morning, April 28, 1946, a rededication service was held in recognition of pastoral leadership and the generosity of members in making many improvements to the interior, through the Woman's Association, New pews, an entirely new chancel, communion table, by members, a beautiful Hammond electric organ and chimes, by a member of the church, and an Oxford Bible, Bible markers, baptismal font and eight pews donated by families, with a new hardwood floor, made the church a beautiful house of worship.

Lenora Ewing and Sylvester Crane are the only two charter members still living and attending service in the church. At present the membership numbers 350.

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## FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The First United Presbyterian church was organized under the supervision of the session of the East Palestine United Presbyterian church some time during the year 1901.

The original church building was erected at the corner of 16th street and Maryland avenue in 1902. This building was enlarged in 1909 by

an addition that was approximately half the size of the original building. From time to time changes and improvements have been made to keep the building attractive and up-to-date. At present an extensive remodeling project is being carried on to improve the appearance of the sanctuary and prepare for the installation of a Baldwin Electronic organ.

Pastors: Rev. E. E. Douglas, of East Palestine, who inaugurated the church in October, 1900. It was organized by a commission appointed by the Cleveland Presbytery. The first pastor of the local church was D. A. MacPhie. He was followed by:

W. T. Brownlee; L. E. Hawk, 1904-6; G. M. McKnight, 1907-11; R. S. McFadden, 1912-14; L. W. Greenlee, 1914-16; D. T. McCalmont, 1916-23; H. A. Armitage, 1924-26; J. H. Miller, 1927-34; W. S. Brownlee, 1935-38; Wm. Grossman, 1939-45; Joseph I. Krohn, 1945, still serving.

S. E. McKee was the first Sunday school superintendent.

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## ST. ANN'S CHURCH

From Sebring Times - 1908: "First mass ever held in Sebring by Catholics was held on Friday morning, March 18, 1908, when about 75 assembled in the City Hall with Father Francis Hopp of Alliance officiating. With the pastor came others of Alliance and the services were unusually impressive. A census of the Catholics of Sebring just completed gives the number at 234. In the near future a chapel will be built by the church membership. Until that time services will be held in the City Hall."

Father George C. Schoenemann was appointed pastor and came to Sebring on September 21, 1908 and rented a building on 17th street between Pennsylvania and Oregon avenues and he named the church in honor of St. Anne. Father Schoenemann was very ill and the work was too much for him. Father Anthony Dean was sent here temporarily - was here from January 1, 1909 to February 9, 1909. Father Hanrahan came on February 9, 1909, bought the ground and built the present church. He was appointed pastor of St. Paul's, Salem, and Father Joseph Powers had charge of St. Anne congregation from August 6, 1913, until June, 1930. Father Victor Studor was appointed pastor in July, 1930 and died April 8, 1934. During the time Father Studor was pastor the church and grounds were remodeled. Father J. Francis Dietz was appointed pastor then and remained until his death on Mother's Day, 1944. Father Dietz was succeeded by the present pastor, Father Ferris J. Petros.

## HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Church of Christ, of Sebring, began in prayer meetings in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Horton. Brother Walter Munsell, pastor of the Christian Church, of Salem, came over and preached several times during the summer and fall of 1901.

The Ohio Christian Missionary Society sent Rev. D. W. Beesaw to hold a revival meeting here in a hall in the Norris block in December, 1901. As a result of these meetings a meeting was held in a building on the southwest corner of Oregon avenue and 15th street, and the local church was organized on the evening of January 29, 1902, with 42 charter members. J. M. Horton and Chas. Aley were Elders, and seven of the charter members are still living in Sebring and are active members of the church. They are: Mrs. Walter S. Crewson, Mrs. Ray Thompson, Mrs. Bertha Hambleton, Mrs. John Pugh, Mrs. Ada Robinson Dearth, Mrs. Bertha Proctor and Mr. Clarence Myers.

The congregation met as the Church of Christ in the Pythian temple on North 15th street, and Lewis Yeagley was hired as a supply minister for six months. Meetings continued in this building until the church built its first building, on the northeast corner of 17th street and Maryland avenue, on a lot donated by the Sebring Land Co., on September 18, 1904. Brother C. W. Huffer came to the church in the summer of 1902 from Toledo; he had formerly been pastor in East Liverpool for many of the congregation.

A tent meeting was held by John G. Slaytor in the summer of 1902. Many souls were added to help the work on the new building. Elders then were J. M. Horton, Charles Aley, Mr. Fox and Dr. Crouse. The following ministers served in this building: C. W. Huffer, Charles E. Taylor, Homer E. Sala, W. H. Oldham, S. B. Nornel, H. H. Anderson, S. J. White (supply for one year), O. J. Howcarth, H. H. Elwinger, Kyle Brooks, and D. P. Shafer, who came here in 1924 to build the present building on the southeast corner of 15th street and Maryland avenue. The ladies of the Home Circle bought two lots here from the Sebrings on which the present building was erected. The corner stone was laid June 13, 1926. The Masonic Lodge Band assisted at that service.

The present building was dedicated May 22, 1927. Brother Shafer preached the dedication sermon and was minister until April, 1933, for nine years. Then L. L. Hinton, J. F. Baxter and Lonnie E. Dever, who on July 21, 1940, held a homecoming and mortgage burning service, and Brother D. P. Shafer was present as guest speaker. Then S. O. Redacre. H. Waddell supplied for four months. Then the present pastor, Paul D. Magnuson, who began his 6th year here June 5, 1949.

The church has served the Lord faithfully these 47 years and has held Communion service every Lord's Day.

For years the Bible School has been the largest in Sebring, and the Loyal Workers' class has been the largest women's class in this part of Mahoning County. The church boasts a very active missionary society, organized March 16, 1913, and supports a living link missionary, Thos. G. Rash, in Kulpahar, India, and gives to the support of other missionaries all over the world. About 750 members are now enrolled in the church.

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### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

At the meeting of Synod at Millersburg, O., October, 1912, Rev. W. W. Kennerly, of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Alliance, Ohio, called the attention of the Synod to Sebring as a possible field for a Lutheran church. Acting upon the suggestion, Rev. R. J. White of Cleveland, missionary superintendent for the East Ohio Synod, came to Sebring and started to work the last week of February, 1913. After a month of preliminary work the first service was held in the city hall on Sunday, March 30. Services were held in this hall for a short time, then the hall in what is known as the Mills block, was leased, where services were held until May, 1915, when the present church building was completed.

The Sunday school was organized on Sunday, April 13, with an enrollment of 38. Fred Shaffer, superintendent of St. Paul's Sunday school, of Alliance, acted as superintendent until the following officers were elected: Superintendent, P. M. Gilbert; Secretary, Mrs. Mildred Lembright Mills; Treasurer, P. H. Grossen; and Organist, Mrs. F. A. Henry. Sunday school supplies were loaned by St. Paul's, Alliance. The song books were donated to the Sunday school by the New Springfield Sunday school. Rev. W. W. Kennerly and Rev. White were very helpful at that time.

On Wednesday evening, September 3, 1913, the congregation was organized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Henry, with 24 charter members. This organization was later incorporated as Trinity Lutheran church.

In the spring of 1914, the two lots on which the present church building and parsonage stand, were purchased, and on August 25, 1914, it was unanimously voted to build a church building. The building was started in January, 1915, and completed early in May. Dedication services were held on Sunday, May 23, 1915, with Rev. R. J. White in charge of the services. Dr. H. L. Yarger, president of General Synod, preached the dedication sermon.

The Sebring congregation united with North Georgetown and New Baltimore in December, 1915, to form a parish and called Rev. H. A. Halverstadt as pastor. After several years North

Georgetown withdrew from this arrangement to form a parish with New Franklin. Several years later the agreement with New Baltimore was terminated at their request.

In 1935, the Sebring congregation again united with North Georgetown to form a parish.

The 25th anniversary was celebrated on Sunday, October 2, 1938. Charles Peters, layman from St. Paul's church, Minerva, was the special speaker. In the evening a fellowship supper was sponsored by the Luther League for all former members of the church. Mr. Thomas Carothers, St. Paul's, Leetonia, was the speaker.

The following pastors have served this parish: Rev. R. A. Halverstadt, 1915-17; Rev. Guy S. Boyer, 1918-21; Rev. H. N. Thompson, 1922-24; Rev. B. B. Uhl, 1927-31; Rev. Carl Shanor, 1932-34; Dr. O. C. Kramer, 1935-39, deceased; Rev. C. H. Frank, 1939-48; Rev. E. L. Wagner, 1948 to present time.

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### CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

At the close of a very gracious revival campaign, conducted by Rev. Earl Stillion, (now deceased) the present local church organization was effected, February 27, 1928. Rev. L. W. Fick was chosen and served the church as the first pastor.

Members of the first church board were as follows: James Sanderson, James Speakman, Edward Watkins, Howard Atkinson, M. Q. Hercules, I. O. Courtney, H. M. Schmelzenbach, Mrs. Paul Morris, Mrs. Edward Watkins, Mrs. Bina Shaw, Mrs. M. O. Hercules, Mrs. I. O. Courtney, Mrs. Frank Case, J. E. Brown, Harold Marsh, Roscoe Smith.

Forty-three charter members composed the communicants of the church at its beginning. The present membership is over two hundred.

The present pastor of the local church is Rev. John T. Donnelly.

Immediately preceding Mr. Donnelly was Rev. Elwood J. Dodge, who went from Sebring to Lancaster, Ohio, to accept a call. Among other former pastors was Rev. Mr. Clark, who served the church faithfully for several years and was stricken suddenly by pneumonia.

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### OTHER CHURCHES

No less deserving of space in this story of Sebring's churches, but younger and smaller in the number of communicants are the Bandy Friends' church, Leon Roby, pastor; Quaker Hill Friends' church, Rev. Paul Baxter, minister; and the Virginia Avenue Church of Christ, youngest of them all, established within the last year or so at the corner of 14th and Virginia.

## LODGES and CLUBS

### SEBRING LODGE NO. 626, F. & A. M.

The first meeting of the Masons of Sebring, of record, was held in a room over the Citizens Banking Co., on April 22, 1913, and meetings were held at different times, until on February 18, 1914, a dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, granting authority to organize a Lodge of Master Masons in Sebring.

The following Masons were signers for the dispensation: \*F. O. Brooks, \*W. A. Byrns, \*I. T. Barnes, \*C. A. Barton, \*A. M. Brumbaugh, \*J. H. Carpenter, George A. Diday, \*M. G. Diver, Albert J. Eden, \*J. F. Gallaher, \*J. M. Horton, J. M. Hazen, John Heddleson, \*George Henry, \*F. A. Henry, Oakley Iden, \*Paul Kildow, \*W. L. Murphy, \*A. E. Menges, \*Charles McBride, \*Daniel McPhail, \*Charles Powell, George B. Shrader, \*Thomas L. Strong, C. L. Sebring, \*F. A. Sebring, H. O. Sebring, \*W. E. Thomson, \*E. R. Turner, \*J. L. Vallow, \*H. D. Weaver, \*W. H. Weir, \*O. C. Walker. \*—Denotes deceased.

Sebring Lodge met under dispensation in Conrad Lodge rooms on Main Street in Alliance from February 20, 1914 until the Sebring temple was completed, in April, 1914.

The charter was granted Sebring Lodge on October 22, 1914, at which time the Grand Master appointed F. O. Brooks the first Worshipful Master of Sebring Lodge No. 626, Free and Accepted Masons; and W. E. Thomson secretary, who served until December 22, 1914, at which time T. D. Keenan was elected secretary and has served continuously from that time.

In addition to the names on the original petition for charter, the following men were charter members: \*E. C. Albright, \*L. A. Bandy, James G. Eardley, \*Samuel Eardley, \*W. L. Freed, \*W. I. Gahris, \*B. H. Greene, R. J. Greene, A. J. Hartzell, M. J. Hawkins, \*Sylvester Heideger, John Hotchkiss, Ernest Hundley, T. D. Keenan, \*J. B. Klingensmith, \*Samuel McElroy, J. S. Malmsberry, \*F. H. Sebring, H. E. Sutherin, Robert Walker. \*—Denotes deceased.

The temple was nearly destroyed by fire in January, 1924. Repairs were made and meetings were continued until the summer of 1941, when the building was moved to its present position and extensive remodeling was completed.

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### HISTORY OF ALMA CHAPTER NO. 498, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

In the spring and summer of 1925, plans were developing for the organization of an Eastern Star chapter in Sebring. These plans materialized through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Alma Boyd. Mrs. Boyd came to Sebring from Pittsburgh, about eighteen months previous to the time of instituting of the chapter. She missed the friends and social contacts which an Eastern Star chapter

affords, and with the assistance of Mrs. Elizabeth Herman she planned the organization of the local chapter, which now bears her name. After arranging the many details, the first meeting of the institution was held August 25, 1925.

Permission was granted to hold meetings in the Masonic temple, and during the remodeling of the temple the chapter was invited to hold its meetings in the Masonic temple in Alliance. Sebring's new Masonic temple was finished in 1941.

The necessary equipment was donated by business firms and others who were interested in the prosperity of the new chapter.

Mrs. Beulah Anthony was at that time Worthy Matron of Alliance Chapter No. 296, O. E. S., and with her officers had been extended an invitation to install the officers of the new chapter. His Honor, the late Judge Arch Schramm, was the Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Ohio at the time and in instituting the new U. D. Chapter, was the guest of honor. This was a memorable day in the lives of many, for it was the beginning of one of the strongest organizations of its kind in this section of the state. The name Alma Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, has become familiar to all Eastern Stars of north-eastern Ohio.

At the Grand Chapter session, held in Columbus, October 26, 1925, the chapter was granted its charter. The Charter members were:

Alma Boyd, Ruth Eardley, Mary Lincke, Stella Moosman, Doris Mae Stanley, Annabelle Ball, Ola Pfaeffli, Elizabeth Dimit, Margaret McMasters, Ruth Weaver, Anna Greene, Lydia Vogt, June Waisner, Mary Mackinson, Nell Williams, W. H. Williams, Mary Jane Brunt, Mary Davis McConnell, Estella Shaffer, Bernice Warren Moore, James Torbert, Vesta Torbert, Myrtle Mushrush, Lenore Byrns, Elizabeth Herman, Frank Herman, Minnie E. Allen, Virginia Mills, Bessie McClintock, Sarah Greene, Edith Anderson, Alda Greene, Sumner Oesch, Doris Windle, Earl Windle, Margaret Carpenter, Lena Henry, Lucy Keenan, T. D. Keenan, Charles Lee Mack, Florence Oesch, Rev. Lyle Carr, Maude Carr, Carrie Warren, Kathryn McMullin, Helen Mackinson Weimer, Ruth Ailes, Laura Brooks.

The first officers installed were: Elizabeth Herman, Worthy Matron; Earl Windle, Worthy Patron; Alma Boyd, Associate Matron; Minnie Allen, Secretary; Vesta Torbert, Treasurer; Ruth Eardley, Conductress; Bessie McClintock, Associate Conductress; Mary Davis, Chaplain; Ola Pfaeffli, Marshal; Ruth Ailes, Organist. Star Points — Ada, Bernice Warren; Ruth, Mary Lincke; Esther, Doris Windle; Martha, Alda Greene; Electa, Lucy Keenan. Mary Mackinson, Warder; James Torbert, Sentinel; Trustees, T. D. Keenan, Stella Moosman, Lena Henry.

There were 48 charter members. The membership in June, 1949, had grown to 337.

Alma Chapter has been honored by the appointment of Mary Lincke as Deputy Grand Matron in 1935, and the subsequent election of Ella May Pollock and Ellen McDonald as presidents of the Thirteenth district.

Minnie Allen, now serving her 24th year as secretary, Mary Lincke and Elizabeth Herman, have been honored by the chapter with life memberships.

Mrs. Jennie Albright of Alliance Chapter No. 296 has been granted an honorary membership in Alma Chapter.

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### McKINLEY LODGE NO. 923, I. O. O. F.

I. O. O. F. was founded in Baltimore, Maryland, April 26, 1819.

First lodge founded in Ohio, at Cincinnati, on December 23, 1830.

McKinley Lodge No. 923, Sebring, instituted on September 3, 1912, meeting held in Bandy building, Grand Master was F. C. Goodrich.

Charter Members and first officers: George E. Heath, Noble Grand; John E. Benson; Forrest J. Seiz, Vice Grand; David J. Evans, conductor; Louis A. Bandy, recording secretary; Clyde W. Colvin, warden; Robert Webb, financial secretary; Ed Boardman; Daniel Evans, outside guard; Wm. Moosman, Inside guard; George S. Frazier, R. S. N. G.; Andrew A. Martin, L. S. N. G.; Robert M. Jewell, treasurer; Frank Herman, R. S. S.; Ed Watkins, R. S. V. G.; John Zwahlen; Wm. C. Heath, L. S. V. G.

Membership at present is 110.

Present officers: George Reader, Noble Grand; Russ Zeppernick Jr., Vice Grand; Glenn A. Matticks, recording secretary; Alvin Hindall, financial secretary; William Norris, treasurer; Henry Hutmacher, chaplain; Fred Morrow, R. S. N. G.; Frank Cartwright, L. S. N. G.; E. Seitz, warden; William Bruderly, inside guard; Milton Robson, R. S. V. G.; Russ Zeppernick Sr., L. S. V. G.; W. D. Cobbs, R. S. S.; Robert Webb, L. S. S.; Frank Cartwright, Robert Webb, H. L. McConnell, trustees.

McKinley lodge also boasts of having one Grand Master of the State of Ohio in J. M. Elliott, and now has one of its members, W. D. Cobbs, as District Representative of District No. 27.

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### REBEKAH LODGE

Through the untiring efforts of Myrtle Mushrush and Martha Brendlinger the Rebekah lodge became a reality in Sebring. The lodge was organized December 16, 1914. The name 'Holly' was derived from the month of December.

The following were charter members:

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Mushrush, Mr. and Mrs. John Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jewell, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Bandy, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. David Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Albaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Evans, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Seitz, Mrs. Sylvia Smith, Mrs. Una Grindley, Miss Edna Petrie, Mrs. Katherine Falls, Mrs. Mary Jenkins, Mrs. Martha Brendlinger, Mrs. Ethel Forbes, Mrs. Hattie Pollard St. John, Mrs. Gertrude Elliott Stewart, John Buehler.

The first meeting was held in the Bandy building. The first Noble Grand, Myrtle Mushrush; Vice Grand, Gertrude Elliott Stewart; Recording and Financial Secretary, Lucy Seitz; and Treasurer, Nessa Jenkins.

The highest honor bestowed on a Rebekah is the Degree of Chivalry, which has been conferred on the following ladies: Mrs. Mary Eans, Mrs. Myrtle Mushrush, Mrs. Martha Brendlinger, Mrs. Mary Makinson, Mrs. Amy Anderson, Mrs. Mae Fink.

The present membership is 155. The present officers are: Noble Grand, Olive Unger; Vice Grand, Dorothy Pearson; Recording Secretary, Patricia Post; Financial Secretary, Beatrice Ripple; Treasurer, Ella Workman.

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### WOMAN'S BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

The Woman's Benefit Association, established nationally in 1892, was introduced into Sebring on November 21, 1901, by Melia Coswell. Ella Hollingshead was the first president, Anna McBain first vice president and Clara Klingensmith first financial secretary. Dr. J. B. Klingensmith was the physician. At the present time Margaret Edwards is president of the Sebring Review; Jennie Marshall, vice president; Hannah Rogers, financial secretary.

The following were charter members of Sebring Review No. 363.

Alice A. Brandon, Blanche Bacon, Adelie Beefont, Lizzie Chalfant, Fanny Chalfant, Eva Cren, Blanche Cox, Marsena Crissinger, Ida G. Curren, Rose Cunningham, Pearl E. Crook, Ola Crook, Mary Dover, Margaret Erb, Dillie M. Easelle, Eva M. Finley, Emma Hall, Mayme Householder, Meria Shaffer, Elizabeth Holmes, Flora Horton, Anna Horton, Ella Hollingshead, Pheobe Helwig, Kate Hassal, Ila M. Jewell, Clara Hollingshead, Emma Larkins, Grace Metzel, Anna McBain, Celeste McKee, Mary Neville, Daisy Morris, Osa Poulton, Dorothy Richards, Jane Richards, Mary Shaffer. Dorothy Richards Pearson is the only one still a member of Sebring Review.

## ESTHER DESMOND TEMPLE NO. 447 ORDER OF PYTHIAN SISTERS

On December 15, 1915, at Sebring, Ohio, Esther Desmond Temple, No. 447, Pythian Sisters, was instituted by District Deputy Grand Chief Sister Esther Bartlett, of Canton, Ohio, assisted by the officers of Lone Rock Temple No. 191, of Alliance, and Buckeye Temple No. 6, of Canton. Fifty members signed the roster. First officers were: Past Chief, Josephine Sharpnack; Most Excellent Chief, Bessie Sneval; Excellent Senior, Margaret Wilson; Excellent Junior, Rose Martin; Manager, Rhea White; Mistress of Records and Correspondence, Lurinda McNeal; Mistress of Finance, Letha Miller; Protector, Ella Shindler; Guard, Carrie Jenkins.

We now have three charter members, Sisters Lurinda McNeal, Pearl Kline and Rhea White, also a Sister who has been in the Order since the year of 1902 and is now an active Sister in our Sebring Temple, Sister Pearl Jones.

Our order has twenty Past Chiefs with an active Past Chiefs' Association. The present officers are: Past Chief, Mary Allison; Most Excellent Chief, Rose Horni; Excellent Senior, Audrey Wassamire; Excellent Junior, Leah Gleish; Manager, Grace George; Secretary, Lena McIntyre; Treasurer, Geraldine Melton; Protector, Ann Popa; Guard, Tracie Lindsey.

Each year a delegate is sent to the Grand Temple session, and a representative to the District Convention. All the expenses are paid by Esther Desmond Temple. The order donates to all civic work and meets every two weeks in the city building.

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## ROSE COUNCIL

Rose Council, Daughters of America, was instituted on June 21, 1915, with 38 members enrolled at that time. The present membership is 139. The first councilor was Mrs. Lucretia Landy, mother of Mrs. Fred Morrow. Mrs. Landy also was the person instrumental in securing the charter.

Charter members surviving are: Mrs. Flora Augustine, Daughter of America Home for the Aged at Tiffin, O.; Mrs. Alice Baumgartner and Mrs. A. . Campbell of Sebring; Nora Hawk (a deceased member) who named the council "The Rose."

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## CROSS OF MALTA AUXILIARY, POST 6730

The total membership of this organization is now 54, with one deceased member, Mary Goodballet.

Auxiliary Presidents: April, 1947-April, 1948, Frances Sanders; April, 1948-April, 1949, Faye Reed; April, 1949-April, 1950, Jessie Nelson.

Charter members: Mildred Baker, Charlotte Booth, Mary Carrier, Grace Cobbs, Ruth Jane

Dawson, Madeline Dawson, Edna Fryfogle, Gladys Heary, Bertha Hoopes, Ruth Ann Irwin, Kathleen McDaniel, Helen Murray, Grace Myers, Jesse Nelson, Betty Christy, Thelma Notman, Jane Perkins, Faye Reed, Frances Sanders, Birdie Steel, Margaret Tuel, Olive Votaw, Catherine Welch.

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## SEBRING WOMAN'S CLUB

The Sebring Woman's club held its first meeting in September, 1919, at the home of Mrs. H. L. McConnell, the founder and first president. Ten members were present.

This club was organized to provide leisure activity for teachers and business girls living or working in the village. For the first year it was known as "The Monday Night Literary Society." Papers were read and books reviewed.

The only charter members now living in Sebring or vicinity are Miss Mary Jenkins, Miss L. M. Low, and Mrs. McConnell.

At the beginning of the second year, the name of the organization was changed to "The Sebring Woman's Club; the membership was increased and an interest was taken in civic questions as well as cultural.

Within the next five years, the club sold the first Christmas Seals in Sebring; secured the right to retain in the village some of the funds raised from the sale of the seals; and started a movement for the first public play grounds.

During its third year, a representative of the Ohio State Federation of Women's Clubs visited the local club, which was then accepted into membership in the state organization, and a short time later into the General Federation.

With Mrs. Emerson Fritchman as chairman, a group from the club secured the election of a woman to the village board of education.

During the early years, the club met in the homes of members, then in class rooms of churches and finally, when the membership became larger, in the Home Economics room in McKinley high school.

Past presidents: Mrs. Harold Weaver, Mrs. Sumner Oesch, Mrs. George Elliott, Mrs. S. H. Pollock, Mrs. John Reddy, Miss Olive Pope, Mrs. Joseph Byrns, Mrs. Tom Purviance, Mrs. Nelle Boster, Mrs. Wilbur Dimit, Mrs. L. L. Wesley, Mrs. Wilma Briggs.

Contributions through the years have been given to different organizations, including: Red Cross, Penny Art Fund, Hospital, Cancer Drive, Tuberculosis, Memorial Fund, Boys' Youth Camp. Articles have been sold that were made by the blind in the state of Ohio.

The club now has 152 members. Club room is at McKinley High School; regular meetings on fourth Thursday, at 8:00 p. m.

## ROTARY CLUB

The Sebring Rotary club was organized at a meeting held in the old Masonic temple on September 8, 1925, when the constitution and by-laws were adopted. The club was sponsored by the Alliance Rotary club, by authority of the district governor, and Wm. Trump, of the Alliance club, was designated especially for the task of forming and launching the club.

The club was chartered Tuesday night, September 22, 1925, at a meeting held in Legion Memorial hall, at which some two hundred Rotarians from a dozen nearby towns and cities were in attendance. Leonard Skeggs, of Youngstown, then district governor, presided at the meeting.

The list of charter members was made up of twenty-one men who were then prominent in business, the industries or professions in Sebring, as follows:

John M. Horton, Willis Jones, C. A. Kelly, E. M. Stanley, Earl Sebring, Dr. G. Y. Davis, J. E. Torbert, W. A. Byrns, Wm. Stanley, Earl Windle, W. H. Williams, Wm. Santee, Raymond Greene, Henry Ostermeier, Fred Sebring, W. L. Murphy,

Frank Herman, Wm. Moosman, Mahlon Griffith, W. L. Brueggeman and M. A. Sutherin.

J. E. Torbert is the only charter member still a member of the club.

The original corps of officers was comprised of John M. Horton, president; J. E. Torbert, vice president; C. A. Kelly, secretary; E. M. Stanley, treasurer; and Raymond Greene, sergeant-at-arms.

The club has always maintained as one of its major objectives the work of caring for crippled children and has for years staged an annual play, the money to be used for this purpose and when a surplus existed loans were made to college students to help them over rough places.

Rotary firmly believes in backing all worthy community projects and its members have given much time in leadership and assistance in such enterprises.

The membership of the club is now thirty, and the following are officers: Wm. Hunter, president; George Stanford, Jr., vice president; Talmage Cottrell, secretary; Jack Sanders treasurer.

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## THE SEBRING CAMP MEETING

By Stella McNutt Purviance

The Sebring Camp Meeting site is a beautiful grove surmounting an eminence locally known as "Quaker Hill." In the year 1905 through this grove walked two men. One, Mr. George Sebring, was owner of the grove. He was one of the founders of Sebring, Ohio, and the founder of Sebring, Florida. The other man was Evangelist "Dick" Albright, the first mayor of Sebring.

These two men were Christians and fast friends. As they walked they talked of spiritual things, somewhat as the two disciples talked on the way to Emmaus. Soon they came to a little old sugar house (for this was a maple grove). They entered the little house and knelt to pray. How little they thought, or knew, of the results that meeting would bring through the years.

Those men had attended camp meetings in other parts of the country, and this was their desire for Sebring. The sole purpose was to have the Gospel of full salvation preached to a lost world. Mr. Sebring said, "I will give this grove of a little more than nineteen acres for that purpose throughout the years to come." Then the Sebring Camp Meeting was born.

A little later Mrs. W. L. Murphy, a niece of Mr. Sebring, an evangelist and author of the gospel song, "Constantly Abiding," attended Sharon Center Camp Meeting. Dr. George F. Oliver, a Methodist minister was conducting the camp. Mrs. Murphy asked if he would come to Sebring and help open a camp. He answered, "Yes," and

in July, 1905, a big canvas tent for an auditorium, and some smaller tents for campers, were secured and the Sebring Camp Meeting was launched. The workers, Dr. G. F. Oliver, Will H. Huff, "Uncle" Bud Robinson. It was a great meeting and some 85 seekers knelt at the altar.

The second Camp Meeting had more than 250 seekers. J. M. and M. J. Harris, singers, were added to the first list of workers. The first five camp meetings had an estimated 2000 seekers for salvation from all sin.

The camp has gone from victory to victory, and again met this present July, 1949.

A great many of the world's best workers have had a part in its success. God has been pleased to bless and own the efforts put forth for the upbuilding of His Kingdom and His glory.

It has not been a local meeting. Many have gone out on the King's business to South America, Africa, India, Korea, Japan, and the Islands of the Sea. Hence the fragrance of the prayer which went up to God from the "sugar house" lingers over many a life, many a home, and many a land.

Countless thousands of men and women have attended Sebring Camp, and have now gone to their eternal reward. What will Eternity hold?

The first committee in charge of plans for the camp was composed of the following:

Rev. Morris Floyd  
W. S. Holloway  
Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Murphy  
C. J. Albright  
George E. Sebring.

## JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

One of the youngest and yet one of the most active civic organizations in Sebring is the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Despite the initial impetus of 50 members when the organization was first chartered here February 26, 1946, the local Jay Cees were slow getting under way.

Formed in order to provide an opportunity for young men of Sebring to undertake constructive community work, the organization lagged for several months. Francis "Bud" Davis was the organization's first president and he started the ball rolling, but returned to school before his term in office had expired. It was during the regimes of William Freed and Gail Williams that the organization gathered spirit which was to carry it to the inauguration of three annual projects and increase the membership to the present number of 68.

It was during Freed's regime that the Jay Cees began to work with and for the citizens of Sebring for a better community. The Jay Cee-sponsored Hallowe'en and Christmas celebrations have come to be looked forward to by both children and adults.

The first Junior Chamber of Commerce minstrel show was presented two years ago. The performance last year, under the direction of Mrs. Martha Kilbreath, and starring local talent, packed McKinley high school auditorium for two performances.

Through full co-operation of a constantly growing membership, and generous financial aid from other groups, each Jay Cee-sponsored project has become greater than that of the previous year.

One of the largest Hallowe'en parades ever to "chase the goblins" down 15th Street, marched in the Junior Chamber sponsored celebration last year.

With the contributions of the business men to aid them, the Junior Chamber of Commerce lighted the streets at Christmas and presented a week long Christmas program which included a visit from Santa Claus and the presentation of gifts from the first Santa Claus toy shop in Sebring.

With the installation of Gail Williams as president of the local group, the Jay Cees took on their most important project—the building of a park for the children of the community and a memorial to the dead of World War I and II.

With the lending by the Sebring Board of Education of 18 acres of ground adjacent to the site of the proposed F. A. Sebring school, the Jay Cees went right to work and cleared a portion of the grounds. Other civic organizations and groups contributed materials and equipment and shared in the 1800 hours of labor given by the Jay Cees, and the Memorial Park is rapidly becoming a

reality. A park commission has been formed of civic leaders of the community under the direction of Robert Akenhead, Jay Cee Park Committee chairman.

Although the development of Memorial Park is expected to be the main concern of the Junior Chamber of Commerce for five years, individual committees are not standing idly by. The larger share of proceeds from all profit making projects is expected to be allocated to the park fund, but ways and means will be found to finance Floyd Speakman's safety committee, which last year placed Scotch light tape on more than 200 bicycles of Sebring children as part of a safety program.

The annual March of Dimes, Boy Scout Drive and other community betterment projects do not escape the attention of the local J. C. C.

Working without reward except that of personal satisfaction, the Sebring Junior Chamber of Commerce was recognized at the 1949 state Junior Chamber of Commerce, when it was presented first prize in the civic improvement classification.

John Briggs recently took the gavel of the Sebring Jay Cees to become the organization's fourth president. Gail Williams, retiring president and recipient of the "Outstanding Man of the Year" award, is chairman of the board of directors and state director.

Dennis Steed and Clinton Heacock, who also hurl for the Jay Cee softball team, are the new vice presidents. Arthur Wall is treasurer and Edward DeGraw is secretary.

Floyd Speakman, Robert Akenhead, George Traner, Harold Smith, Ralph Muerth, Ray Elliott, Richard Ailes and Williams, along with the officers, are members of the board of directors.

The organization meets the first and third Thursday of each month, with the second meeting in the month held in the form of a dinner session, when an outstanding civic leader or state Jay Cee is guest speaker. Members of the organization hold responsible positions in community business and industry and yet find time to devote to the organization's and community's betterment.

The individual Jay Cees in Sebring realize they are part of a rapidly growing movement that now has international affiliations. The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce is a federation of more than 1400 local organizations in 46 of the 48 states. There are branches in 35 foreign countries.

The Junior Chamber is a civic service organization for young men between the ages of 21-35, inclusive. It is dedicated to two purposes: Improvement and development of the community, and improvement and development of the individual member to train him for business advancement and civic leadership.

# SEBRING ALL OUT FOR SPORTS

By Ray Poorbaugh and Kenny Penrose

In delving back through musty files and lively old memories to gather the data for a sports history of Sebring it becomes apparent that in at least two branches of athletics, baseball and football, Sebring has gained a measure of fame far greater than the average town of its size, no matter where it be located. At one time, during its fifty years of existence, we could lay just claim to the semi-pro baseball championship of the state.

At another period Sebring owned an equal claim in the semi-pro football rating. These were in team sports, of course, but the village has done equally well in individual endeavor, especially in these two fields. Other branches of athletics have found the town holding its own with communities its size, but failing to produce an above-average performance either singly or collectively. Sebring has had representation in practically all sports known to American fans, with the exception of ice hockey and other winter sports where neither the climate nor terrain have been favorable. Baseball, football, basketball, tennis, golf, foot racing, horse racing, automobile racing, bowling, billiards, boxing, wrestling and soccer have all been enjoyed, both actively and in the role of spectators by residents of the town, during its half-century of life. The history of its athletes and the memories of their feats will live forever in their minds, and so a chapter devoted to these tales is an absolute necessity for any complete historical volume.

In compiling any record over a span of fifty years it is only reasonable to assume that somewhere along the line some team or individual will be overlooked, due to faulty memory or incomplete data - and so if we fail to give proper credit to some athletic hero of the past it will only be due to the above reasons. We have gathered material from old newspaper accounts, score books, etc, of games played in the past, and from the memories of the participants themselves, or of the fans who witnessed the events. Most of the facts are true, some may be colored by the witnesses' human failings, a few may be out and out inventions, but we believe, on the whole, it is a fairly creditable account of the town's athletic deeds during its first half-century of existence.

## Baseball

Except for 1899, the year of its founding, Sebring has never been without some kind of a baseball team, either playing the game as invented by Abner Doubleday, or its modern substitute, the softball or indoor-outdoor variants. The town has had many great teams and many great players but it is generally conceded, and the records bear

it out, that the years of greatest plenty were from 1908 to 1912, when beating Sebring on the diamond was a task that few cared to try and even fewer accomplished. Many of the players of those teams were minor league aces and a few had major league try-outs - all of them were star players, individually, and together they were a great team. The story of the teams of that era brings a glow of pride to the hearts of every Sebring sports fan.

A true history of baseball, in Sebring, must begin with the town's first team, in the year 1900. The first game ever played in Sebring was in May, 1900, with East Palestine as the opponent. The game was played on a field just south of the present Limoges China Co. plant. Incidentally, this field was used by all future teams up to the year 1908, when the diamond was built in the center of Sebring's first race track, located at what is now the corner of Vermont avenue and Fourteenth street. Most of the players of that initial team are now dead, but its manager, John "Scotty" Hotchkiss, is still very much alive and, along with "Leck" Eells, furnished most of the material for the stories of the first decade of Sebring baseball history. Scotty continued as manager of the Sebring team until the year 1912 and it was during his tenure as boss that the team achieved its greatest fame. Eells was a famous umpire of the time and his services were in demand throughout the entire countryside.

That opening game of baseball in the infant town of Sebring found Herford Moore, a right-hander, on the mound for the home team, with Clarence Brooks catching. Jim Weston was at first base, Warren Hartzell Sr. at second, Jim Ward at short, and Judy Reed on third. Sylvester Heideger, Jim Curren and Sam (Deacon) Stillwell made up the outfield. Jell Jacobs umpired and Shell Johnson was official score-keeper. Results of the game is unfortunately forgotten, but apparently the team enjoyed only fair success in its initial campaign.

During the following seven years the team continued to get tougher and tougher to whip both on and off the field, and by 1908, when the town was definitely established as being here to stay, baseball fever had risen to a high pitch and its backers, the Sebring brothers, were sparing no expense to see that the team was properly equipped with the necessary pitchers and catchers when an important contest was in the offing.

These were the days when the American and National leagues were turning out greats at a record smashing rate and the country was "nuts" about the national game - even more so than now - maybe.

It was the day of the derby hat, the peg top trouser and the high button shoes and baseball was still a rough, tough game for men only, guaranteed to produce a few fights on the field every day and a few more off the field each night. To be good, a team had to be able to win its games on the field in the afternoon, then fight its way out of town in the evening. The Sebring players were experts in both departments. With transportation confined to horse and buggy and an occasional train, each community provided its own form of entertainment for its folks, and during the summer months it was baseball in Sebring. On afternoons when the team was scheduled to play, all work stopped in the town's potteries and the workers hied themselves to the ball field after a short stop in the neighborhood (out-of-town) saloon. Since the majority of the players all had jobs in the Sebring shops it behooved them to win or suffer the taunts of their fellow workers until the next scheduled game. Potters' taunts are particularly stinging, so it is little wonder that the players would go all out to avoid having to hear them. Sebring fans also were wont to back their team with huge gobs of money in every start and a severe losing streak could create very unpleasant working conditions for everyone concerned. Therefore, severe losing streaks were practically unknown.

The team's chief rivalry was furnished by Alliance, Salem and Massillon, and it was considered very proper in those early days to secure at least a pitcher and, if possible, an entire battery, of professional caliber to operate in front of the team during games with those clubs. Professional players were not so common in those days and their services came high. George Sebring, one of the original founders of the town, was the club's chief backer and money was no object to George when a victory over Alliance or Salem depended on the heaving arm of a chap from Pittsburgh, Akron, Toledo or Chicago, if necessary. Consequently, when a big game was scheduled for some future date Manager Hotchkiss would be dispatched by train, accompanied by an armful of greenbacks, to the nearest city where a competent hurler could be lured with lucre, with instructions to bring him back alive and at least well enough to chuck nine good innings of baseball. Since money talked at least as loud in those days as it does today, Scotty would usually show up on the day of the game with a husky, raw-boned, sun-blackened, tobacco-chewing "kid" named Smith or Jones or Brown on the mound, and the Central League Akron Indians or the Toledo Mudhens, or the Pittsburgh Pirates would be wondering how their ace right-hander was taken sick so suddenly and violently, when he had been in

good health the day before, or how many grandmothers "Lefty" owned and what mysterious malady afflicted them that they should all die the same year, necessitating "Lefty's" presence at the funeral. They might have been still more puzzled had they known that these sicknesses and funerals all took place on the days that Sebring played Alliance or Salem, and again that not.

However, be that as it may, the season of 1908 opened on May 27th with Sebring entertaining Niles on the race track field at 14th and Vermont, with Sebring winning 10-1 and starting a four-year period that saw them lose few games. Charley Baumgartner, later marshal of the town, who had just returned from a hitch in the Texas League, played centerfield and led off for the potters and collected a double in four trips to the plate. Jack Myler, playing left field, and batting second, collected 1 for 5. Milt Kline, in right and Marty Van Fossan, the shortstop, led the hitting with 2 bingles apiece. Other Sebring players were Ed Jones at second, Jake Cook at first, Jenks at third, Judy Reed catching, and Rube Evans pitching. Harry Rice also had a turn in the outfield. Evans limited the opposition to six hits and fanned six batters. In addition to Baumgartner, Myler and Evans also enjoyed minor league fame in the later years. Evans was employed by Dallas, of the Texas league and was looked over by one of McGraw's scouts who sent word back to the famed Muggsy to come and see his new find. McGraw told Evans he had more sheer stuff than he had ever seen but had to learn to use his head before he could win in the majors. Evans later played in the Pacific Coast league and was signed by McGraw but never reported. Jack Pugh, Red Neigle, and Pete Rafferty joined the team later in the 1908 season and all contributed heavily to the team's success.

The season of 1908 was a phenomenal success and Sebring promptly laid claim to the semi-pro championship of the state. Their claim was as good as any and better than most, but as there was no official way of settling the matter it remained a mythical one. This success continued throughout the following three seasons and Sebring teams were feared and respected by all opponents. Regular personnel of the team was changed somewhat before the close of the 1911 season. Jake Cook had retired and became an umpire. Geordie Brimlow had arrived from East Palestine to take over the catching chores for the locals, and endear himself to local fans for his power hitting and excellent fielding. Larry Maley came back from a sojourn in the Carolina league, to become the club's No. 1 hitter and one of their best pitchers. Maley played first base

when not on the mound. Young Jack Cardinal came along late in the 1911 season to play a few games at short. Cardinal later enjoyed minor league fame in the Three I League. Other players not so well remembered were Farnbane, James, Birkheimer, Slovin, Rickinger, Hofman, Miller, Blackburn and Shaw. These were taken from old score books of the period.

In addition to the regular players, all of whom were among the best in their trade at the time, the list of imported battery men would help fill a baseball who's who of the period, had they only used their correct monikers when working for the Sebring team or their Alliance or Salem opponents. One of them who did use his correct name was George Sisler, recognized by many experts as the greatest first sacker of all times. Sisler pitched an entire season for Sebring in 1911 and averaged 15 strikeouts per game. The greatest difficulty was in securing a catcher who could handle Sisler's swift breaking hook. Sisler, whose home was in Akron, was attending the University of Michigan at the time. Upon his graduation from the Ann Arbor institution he was signed by the St. Louis Browns, after an argument with the Pirates, and went on to a fabulous big league career that saw him, among other accomplishments, set the mark of .421 that still stands as a modern record for big league batting averages. An old record book owned by Hotchkiss carries the box score of a game played July 9, 1911, in which Sisler beat Salem 8-2 at Lake Park, allowing but 3 hits and fanning 10. Blackburn was his catcher that day.

Another famous baseball figure of the day who pitched for Sebring quite often during those years was Jake Pittinger, later a big league outfielder. Frank Mills, a local boy who later played with the Brooklyn Dodgers, broke into a few games as a rookie catcher. However, it was not merely the quality of their play in the field, despite its excellence, that made the Sebring team great in those days. It was their fierce determination to win and the deep loyalty of the fans who followed them wherever they went and backed them to the limit with cash and applause. The team was colorful both on and off the field.

One of its greatest stars was Red Neigle, possessed with a mighty bat, a powerful arm and an even more powerful vocabulary. Neigle's proficiency in profanity would put a mule-skinner to shame and he feared not man nor beast. On one occasion, when the team was playing at Salem in a grudge battle, Neigle collected five doubles off the left field fence, interspersing each blow with a stream of cuss words directed at his poor prespiring pitcher-victim. Neigle was especially

unpopular in Salem and at each of his appearances at the plate he was met by a chorus of boos from the crowd. After each hit the gloating Neigle would stand on second base, holding aloft, in jeering derision at the fans, first one finger, then two, and so on up to five. After crossing home plate on his fifth two-bagger Neigle was accosted by a fan seated behind the backstop and protected by a chicken wire screen in language that almost matched his own. This was too much for the fiery red-head, who walked up to the screen, shifted his wad of eating tobacco to his left side and let loose a stream of juice that caught his tormentor in the eye and streamed down his face to dribble off his chin. Neigle then challenged all and sundry to come out from behind the screen and fight. Sebring players fortified themselves with bats to stand off the attack but police stopped the trouble before it was too late.

On another occasion, Milt Kline, who probably packed the healthiest punch of anyone on the squad, flaunted the Salem chief of police with a left hook to the whiskers. Reinforcements hurriedly rushed to the rescue and clapped Kline behind the bars where he finally was rescued by George Sebring's pet lawyer on a ruse involving sickness at home, plus a generous cash bail. Although the chief had been unmercifully heckling the Sebring players, Kline in particular, Milt stoutly denied that fact as the reason for his lethal wallop, claiming instead that the chief had been mistreating some schoolboy fans at the game. Since the bail was forfeited, neither claim was ever proved.

Throughout the four years, from 1908-11, the Sebringites never dropped a season's series to either Alliance or Salem. The closest they came was in 1909, when Alliance led by two games going into the season's finale. A Labor Day double-header was on, the morning game in Sebring and the afternoon game at Morgan park, in Alliance. Faced with the necessity of winning both games or admitting the bigger town's superiority for the season, Hotchkiss made a hurried trip to Akron to beg for one of the Central league's top hurlers. He was promised one who would pitch and win both games. However, on the day before the games the Akron skipper called up to inform Scotty that the Akron owner insisted his star pitcher be in uniform for the afternoon game at Akron even if he didn't pitch. Scotty used him in the morning game and he whipped Alliance 1-0, allowing 3 hits. Sebring scored the winning run in the last of the eighth, when Jack Jones walked with two out, stole second and scored on a single by Larry Maley. Rube Evans then worked the afternoon game and with thousands of dollars

riding on every pitch beat the Alliance nine 4-3 to even the season's series.

One team to take the measure of the locals, however, was Warren, Ohio. The Trumbull countians boasted a powerful nine during the 1908 season and every player on their team later played minor or major league baseball. Among them were Red Ames, later one of McGraw's star hurlers with the Giants; Cotton Turner, Cleveland third baseman; Red Patterson, later an infielder for the Giants; and Del Haenny, a great outfielder for St. Louis.

With the gradual breakup of this great team, beginning with the 1912 season, baseball in Sebring began to fall back to a level in keeping with the size of the town. No team ever again arose to the standards of the 1908-11 squads, and, beginning in 1930 the town was without a baseball team for nearly a decade. The sport had been replaced by the softball variety, beginning partially in 1928 and continuing until the outbreak of World War II in 1942. In the softball field a good Sebring pottery team won the Industrial league trophy 3 years in a row and was among the best in the district during the late 20's and early 30'. After that a church league was formed and dominated by a great St. Ann's team that met and defeated all comers. Leading softball players of the day were Needles Frank, Jim Jordan, Les Schreckengost, Possum Reese, the Schwartzhoff brothers, Ted and Joe, Dave McSweeney, Chuck and Harold Wheeler, Francis Jones, Art and Bob Cannell, Ed Heideger, Earl Rogers, Tommy Woods and Kenny Mills.

Organization of the Alliance Hot Stove league by Cy Butler, of the Alliance Review, and formation of a Sebring chapter during the past year might help to restore baseball interest locally. The signing of George Wilson to a Cleveland Indian contract and the success of Ray Bowers in minor league ball during the 1948 season also may help encourage youngsters to return to the game. But the ease of transportation to Cleveland and Pittsburgh, where fans can see the best in the game in action, probably means that Sebring will never again enjoy the fame that was once hers on the ball field.

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### Football

Notre Dame had its four horsemen, Fordham had its seven blocks of granite, and Sebring had its Sebring Tigers, a semi-professional team that took on the most rugged types of opposition and usually came out on the long end of the score. Such all-time Sebring greats as Frank Hogue and Dick Alvis made the Tigers a team which many Sebringites would follow anywhere and be proud to root for.

Sebring high school took up the tradition in 1915, and for four consecutive years went undefeated, although they were tied twice, both deadlocks later to be avenged with victories. Sebring naturally carried the title of Mahoning county champions through the golden era, since they played practically every village, town or hamlet that could collect together eleven boys.

This 1915 team, under Coach Henderson, which started Sebring high off on the right foot, was composed of Cyril Hundley and Frank Borton, ends; Cletus Doyle and Fred Baumgartner, tackles; Harley Brown and Wilbert Parr, guards; and Paul McShane, center. In the backfield were the following: Wendell Phillips and Eugene Strain at the halfbacks; Louis Davis at fullback; and George Hazlet, quarterback.

Some say that the 1919 aggregation was Sebring's greatest, but this point will probably be argued for the next fifty years by the downtown quarterbacks.

Coach Dunbar led his Sebring high school eleven through an eight-game schedule without a defeat. In fact, only one of the opponents, Boardman, was able to score at all and that was on a 45 yard field goal. However, Sebring shut Boardman out in the final game of the 1922 season, 19-0, in a return game. Included in the string of white washes handed out by the Dunbar men was a 7-0 victory over Alliance high school.

Remaining goose eggs for the 1922 campaign were given to North Lima, 72-0; Damascus, 32-0; Youngstown South, 26-0; and Canfield twice, 40-0 and 28-0.

The boys who compiled this amazing record for Sebring high included Ernest Hahlen and Kenneth Mills, ends; Capt. "Red" Nigel and Harold McConnell, tackles; Dick Alvis and Harrison McLane, guards; and Freddie Huseroft at center. Carrying the mail in the backfield were Earl Trimmers and Bernard Blumensteil, at the halves; Lorenzo Brimlow at full, with Carl Sowler at quarter.

Listed as substitutes were Cliff Morley, Nelson Stroble, Harold Shuster, Cliff Daugherty, Willis Jacobs and Kenneth Jones.

We wonder how many football fans recall the 6-6 tie between Sebring and Alliance high in 1923, played in the mud and slush at Mount Union stadium. Remember. Sebring and Alliance played to a 7-7 tie in 1924 and in 1925 Alliance walloped the McKinleyites to the tune of 78-0. Ouch!

However, after a couple of lean years it was a different story and Sebring high school turned up again with an undefeated eleven in 1927, and only a desperation, last-minute touchdown by Al-

liance in the final minute of play prevented Sebring from going undefeated again in 1928. Minerva managed to tie Sebring each year, 0-0 in 1927 and 7-7 in 1928. Again Sebring high school gained recognition as Mahoning county champions during those two years.

Responsible for this fine showing were the following: Heideger, Erb, Watson, Wheeler, Poorbaugh, Hawkins, Roberts, Blumensteil, Larkins, Schreckengost, Rogers, Klass, McGee, Fink, Patton, Cannell, Clarke, Head, Close, Jones, Elliott, Beech, Sharp, Oliver, Yothers and Henry. Heaviest men were Earl Rogers, fullback; Harold Wheeler, center; and Murray Erb, all at the 157 mark. Allen Roberts, the left end, weighed only 119 pounds.

The Tri-County league was formed and first operated during the 1932 season. Seven villages, representing Mahoning, Stark and Columbiana counties were admitted. They were Leetonia, Lisbon, Minerva, Louisville, East Palestine, Boardman and Sebring. Columbiana later replaced Leetonia as a member of the loop.

The Sebring McKinley high school team, nicknamed the "Trojans" by the student body, won their first Tri-County championship in 1935, three years after the loop's beginning.

Under the tutelage of Coach James Hostettler the Trojans beat all league opponents with the exception of Boardman, whom they tied 0-0. However, the East Palestine Bulldogs licked Boardman and Sebring turned the tables on East Palestine by a score of 13-7. Other league victories were scored at the expense of Minerva 20-13, and Lisbon Leetonia and Louisville, all by the score of 6-0.

The Trojans opened the season under the lights at Reilly stadium in Salem and managed to hold the Quakers to a 0-0 deadlock. The 1934 Trojans were able to spill the Quakers 7-0, but failed to win the Tri-County flag.

Other non-league games during the 1935 season ended twice in defeat at the hands of Toronto, 6-0, and Wellsville, 19-0, while the Purple and Gold hung a 20-0 loss on Newell, W. Va., in the remaining contest.

Mainstays of the 1935 squad were Bob Idings and "Sonny" Campbell, who between them scored all the Trojans' points that year.

Play, up to this time, had been on the race track field, running north and south across the outfield where there are still two goal posts in evidence, and also at the entrance of the race track, on the west side of Twelfth street.

By 1938 the present stadium had been built as a W.P.A. project, with a seating capacity of fifteen hundred.

Sebring opened the 1938 season, still under Coach Hostettler, and proceeded to whip Atwater, coached at the time by Robert "Sonny" Akenhead,

in the inaugural.

It wasn't until 1940 that the lighting system was added and Sebring, then coached by Clinton Heacock, proved equal to the task by derailing a tough Leetonia team 6-0.

The Trojans went on to gain a tie for the Tri-County flag in 1940, bowing before Boardman 14-0 on Armistice Day. It was the first defeat for the Trojans in nine games. A previous 6-6 tie with Salem was the only other blot on the Trojans' record. Boardman had dropped a decision to Louisville earlier in the year, a team the Trojans had defeated 12-7.

Sebring licked Lisbon 20-6, Columbiana 26-6, East Palestine 13-7, and Minerva 19-0 in other league contests.

Members of the 1940 squad, last to figure in a Tri-County race, were Ailes, Lang, Wolfe, Lee, White, Hoyle, Courtney, Stanford, Whitacre, Miller, Hennon, Kirksey, Bert, Davies, Heacock, and Baumgartner.

Sebring has had many fine teams since 1940, which have won a lot of games, 7-2 in 1947, for example, and has always had a colorful team to follow, judging from the crowds that have been packing the stadium, and who also follow the Trojans on road games.

So, Sebring, in its fiftieth year of existence, has had its share of football glory in the past and, while the present records do not compare with the past too favorably, it seems sure that every effort will be made by Coach Tebelak to elevate the position of football once again in Sebring so that the village may bask in the limelight as in bygone days. Good luck, Trojans, for 1949!!!

## BASKETBALL

Sebring is probably best known to the basketball world through the efforts of Fred "Peg" Mills, who has sponsored an All-Ohio basketball tournament here annually since 1927. Many well-known high school and college favorites perform each year for their leading district amateur teams, which makes Sebring the basketball capital of Ohio for one full week.

In 1947, for example, there were 104 entrants in the tourney, which was won by the Massillon Shanklin Radio quintet. Three basketball floors were pressed into service, with games being played at Beloit and Memorial Hall at Mount Union College, besides the McKinley court.

A team composed of players from Sebring has never won a tournament here. However, Tom Akenhead was the backer of a quintet composed of Westminster college lads who played under the Sebring banner and copped the laurels.

Sebring high school's first indoor basketball court was a roller rink located on the corner of Fourteenth street and Indiana avenue and operated by the late Louis Kuntzman. Some fine rec-

ords were compiled there, such as in 1921-22 when the Purple and Gold won eleven games in a row, beat all their county opponents and lost only to Columbiana in the Northeastern Ohio tournament and to Berlin Center in the county tournament. Members of that 1921-22 squad included Lorenzo Brimlow, Kenneth Mills, Dick Alvis, Bernard Blumensteil, and "Red" Nigel.

The Trojans moved into their newly built gymnasium, which now serves as the auditorium in the high school building, in 1925. In 1932 the Tri-County league was formed, consisting of seven teams from Columbiana, Mahoning and Stark counties. Sebring's initial Tri-County championship was achieved during the 1934-35 season when the Trojans went undefeated in six league games. Louisville was the first victim of the Purple and Gold, falling by a 42-17 score. Lisbon lost to the Trojans 27-24, Minerva was beaten 39-18, East Palestine was edged 24-19 and then Sebring and Columbiana met as undefeated teams on the latter's floor. The Trojans emerged the victor 27-23 in a hot scrap. Boardman was the final league victim, 34-16. Coach James Hostettler's quintet lost only to Salem, 27-18; Wellsville, 43-25; and to Newton Falls, 38-24, over a sixteen game schedule.

Arthur Wahl, star forward of the 1934-35 squad, led the Tri-County league in scoring by meshing 147 points in sixteen games. He also led in league play with a total of 59 points in six league encounters, one less point than Franklin Fowler, of Sbring, had made in leading the league during the 1933-34 season. On the 1934-35 championship team were Deemer Agnew and John Derby, centers; Art Wahl and Alex Burns, forwards; Jack Applegate, Wayne Burgess and Bill Freed, guards; and Gene Rogers, a forward.

Although the Trojans came close, they failed to win their second basketball title until the 1942-43 season. However, there were two individual scoring marks set in the meantime, both by J. "Sonny" Campbell, one of which has since been broken, one which still stands. During the 1937-

38 campaign Campbell meshed 36 points in a single game against New Waterford high school. This amazing scoring spree was accomplished in the "old" gymnasium and hasn't been seriously threatened as yet. Campbell totalled 184 points in 14 games that year which wasn't broken until the season of 1942-43.

This same 1942-43 Purple and Gold edition, coached by Ralph Gartrell, has been ranked as one of the greatest, if not the greatest, in the history of Sebring high school. Not only did this team defeat all six Tri-County league basketball foes but took the measure of all but two foes over an eighteen game route, including a 36-22 victory over Alliance and a thrilling 32-20 decision over the Salem Quakers. By this time the Trojans had moved into their new basketball home, an addition to the high school building, completed as a W.P.A. project in 1939, and certainly one of the finest gymnasiums in the state.

George Wilson, lanky center of the championship squad, broke all existing records when he notched 242 points in eighteen games and led the Tri-County league scorers with a total of 70 points in six games. Sebring had that season Dick Turner, Al Marsh, Harry Youmans, George Wilson, Tony Lee and Don Campbell, brother of "Sonny", who were known affectionately to Trojan fans as the "Big Six." Ron and Don Courtney, Earl "Bud" Brendlinger and Ken Hetherington rounded out the squad which broke the league record in scoring, which was previously made by the 1939-40 Columbiana Clippers. The new mark is 739 points. The old one was 690.

In final tribute to fifty years of basketball, a word should be said about the Trojan 49'ers.

After a slow start in which Coach Ray Schaefer did a bit of line-up juggling before finding a winning combination. The Trojans finished the season with ten consecutive triumphs, which included three in tournament play. Those three wins advanced the Purple and Gold into the Class "B" regionals, the closest any Sebring team has come to the charmed circle of Columbus competitors for the state title.

#### PLAYGROUNDS IN SEBRING

During the years 1923, 1924 and 1925, Sebring sponsored two playgrounds, one on the north side and the other on the south side of town. The grounds were maintained through individual contributions, and mainly through the generous donations of C. L. Sebring. A teacher in the schools, L. O. Bitler, was the very capable director for the three years of the playgrounds' existence. He supervised the work of the two girl leaders, who were in charge of the playlots. After 1925 the grounds were discontinued through lack of adequate financial support.

In the spring of 1944, Dr. Vernon P. Martin,

pastor of the First Presbyterian church, and Ray Hilty, principal of McKinley high school, saw the need of playgrounds and organized sports in Sebring to curb a wave of juvenile delinquency that struck Sebring as well as the rest of the nation in the World War II years. The two men called for a meeting of Sebring citizens, and from this group, which met in the high school building, an executive board was chosen. Members worked very hard to raise enough money through public subscription by means of a house-to-house campaign to support the grounds for one year. With

the cooperation of the school board, play grounds were opened on each of the three school grounds. During the five seasons, the grounds have been open much equipment, also used by the schools, has been added to the grounds. Each winter the playground board has maintained one or two supervised ice-skating ponds.

In November, 1944, a playground levy placed on the ballot met the approval of the voters, and funds were available to continue the grounds for three more years. By economical spending the board has been able to maintain the playgrounds an additional year, after a renewal of the three-year levy was defeated last November. The levy will again be voted on in November, 1949.

Since the support of the playgrounds by tax money, the playground board has worked under the supervision of the village council. Present members of the board are: Tom Woods, Sr., chairman; Mrs. Glenn Matticks, secretary; Mrs. John A. Reddy, Harry Crewson, Fred Morrow, Gail Williams, and Gordon Ritter.

Supervisors of the playgrounds have been: Ralph Gartrell, 1944; Louis Cardinal, 1945; Ray Schaefer, 1946-47; and Edwin Trott, 1949. The following young ladies have served as playground leaders: Alice Jean Watson, Jean Ann Lindsay, Elizabeth Steve, Gertrude Cartwright, Dolores Tucker, Joyce Williams, Donna Jean Heestand, Rita Tucker, Thelma Knecht, Nelda Myers and Suth Ann Gallagher. Miss Watson served as assistant supervisor for one year. For the past two years Don Matticks has ably assisted the supervisor.

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#### DADS OF FOREIGN SERVICE VETERANS

Sebring's chapter of the Dads of Foreign Service Veterans received its charter Sunday, July 24. More than 250 persons, including Dads prominent in other chapters of the organization, were present for the ceremonies. There are 34 members in Sebring at the present time.

The local chapter was organized mainly through the efforts of Ed Brunie of Salem Post 8. The first meeting of the group, slated to be the nucleus of the local chapter, met on December 15, 1948. Walter Reed and Philip Schroeder acted as chairmen at these early meetings before the charter was received.

At the time of receiving the charter, officers for the present year were installed. The roster of officers includes: Karl Harsh, president; Walter Reed, senior vice-president; John Lalu, junior vice-president; Philip Schroeder, secretary; T. Mitcheltree Sr., chaplain; Godfrey Edie, sergeant-at-arms; John Boyd, treasurer; Harry St. John, adjutant; and Harry Smith, guard. The trustees named were Ed Pinkerton, George Court and Lee Harris.

#### AMERICAN LEGION

First meeting held to organize the American Legion on August 8, 1919. Next meeting was called for Monday, August 11, 1919, to get veterans to sign up for the charter, of which there were thirty, as follows:

William Stanley, Ronald Robinson, Charles Rentz, Raymond Greene, Emmett Barrett, Harold Weaver, James Eardley, John Hopkins, Samuel Leighton, Alice Edith Burns, Norman Reed, Thomas F. Shaffer, Earl Windle, Curtis Fahnert, Lawrence Greene, Leroy Hazlett, Jack Edwards, Lester Brendlinger, William Brown, Cliff Ball, Glenn Oyster, Eldis Ball, Herbert Boyer, Clarence Unger, Arthur McCalmont, Lee Shicley, David McCrum, Herman Lautenschlager, John Buehler, Frank Buehler.

On September 9, 1919, the post was instituted, and the officers were elected and installed, as follows: James Eardley, Commander; Hal Surls, Vice Commander; Emmett Barrett, Secretary; Harold Weaver, Treasurer. At this meeting the charter was received.

The following commanders were elected as the post grew: Norman Reed, 1921; J. J. Daniels, 1922; Richard Colvin, 1923; Frank Cartwright, 1924; Curtis Fahnert, 1925; Earl Sebring, 1926; Jack Lindsay, 1927; James Eardley, 1928; Lawrence Greene, 1929 and 1930; William Millner, 1932; E. Emmons, 1933; Edward McBane, 1934; James Eardley, 1935; James Brown, 1936; E. J. Taylor, 1938; Jules Bert, 1939; Charles Gillis, 1940; Hal Surls, 1941; Edward McBane, 1942; John Stevenson, 1944; L. Kline, 1945; S. H. Pollock, 1946; James Conny, 1947; John Ciammer, 1948; McBride, 1949.

In 1924 the ground was broken to start building of the memorial hall.

During the depression the Legion made up baskets and gave to needy families; also gave the children of Sebring a Christmas party.

Every year the Legion gives the best student in American history in the 7th and 8th grades and senior high school medals.

In 1935 the Legion assisted the fire department in putting on a fall harvest home festival. It has been active in sponsoring basketball and soft ball competition and in the past few years has operated a very successful youth center.

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#### THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY TO MCKINLEY POST NO. 76

On May 1, 1946, a group of women met in the Legion home in Sebring, Ohio, to organize an Auxiliary to McKinley Post No. 76 of the American Legion, Department of Ohio. The charter fee was a gift of the local Post.

On May 22, 1946, the charter was received, declaring this the American Legion Auxiliary Unit to McKinley Post No. 76, Sebring, Ohio. Thirty-two names are inscribed on the charter,

as follows: Marjorie Allcorn, Amy Anderson, Martha E. Bert, Martha A. Bert, Margaret Chapman, Marie Crewson, Anna Crewson, Kathryn Conny, Elsie Cartwright, Gertrude Cartwright, Verna Eaton, Erma Jacobs, Rachel Green, Wilda Green, Grace Heslep, Florence Klein, Mary Kovak, Winifred Mason, Frances Maiden, Pearl Morrow, Grace Myers, Mary Needham, Jane Perkins, Ella Pollock, Florence Sutcliffe, Frances Sanders, Frances Sharpnack, Lydia Stephenson, Ramona Stephenson, Rachel Shoar, NaVera Warth, Marian Woolfe.

On June 25, 1946, the Unit was instituted. Mrs. John Doyle, Past President of District Nine, was the installing officer. With the assistance of the American Legion Auxiliary to Post No. 131, of Austintown, O., Mrs. Doyle installed the following officers: Mrs. J. Lawrence Klein, President; Mrs. Howard Crewson, 1st Vice President; Mrs. James Conny, 2nd Vice President; Mrs. James Maiden, Secretary; Mrs. Frank Cartwright, Treasurer; Mrs. John Stephenson, Chaplain; Mrs. Ray Myers, Historian; Mrs. Glenn Mason, Sergeant-at-Arms.

It is the aim and purpose of this Unit to participate in the following programs: Americanism, Child Welfare, Rehabilitation, Community Service, National Defense, Pan-American Study, and Junior Activities.

The Unit sponsors a local high school girl at Buckeye Girls' State each year, for one week.

Other projects of this Unit the a "Baby Chest" for the use of the county nurse as she sees fit; the distribution of "Baskets of Cheer" to needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas time; aid to hospitalized and non-hospitalized veterans; the "Youth Center," a combined project of both the Post and Auxiliary, well known to all teenagers in Sebring.

One of the outstanding days of the Unit was June 14, 1946. They had the pleasure of serving the Post their Flag Day banquet, at which Ohio's governor, Frank J. Lausche, was guest of honor.

On June 10, 1948, the Unit entertained the Gold Star Mothers of Sebring. The affair commemorated the second anniversary of the Auxiliary.

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 76 is proud of the part it has in the history of Sebring, and seeks to continue to be a great and useful local organization.

Gold Star members—Pearl Morrow, Velva Hoopes, Elizabeth Hoopes, Ada Null, Olive Hutmacher, Gertrude Juhn. Veteran members—Margaret Wagaman and Martha E. Bert.

#### VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Cross of Malta Post No. 6730 Sebring, Ohio

This post originated late in the year of 1945, at the former Sebring Pottery offices. After getting a few members, meetings were started at the same place,

On April 7, 1946, a meeting was called at the American Legion home, with Chief of Staff Huburb, of Youngstown, presiding. The colors of Post No. 1036, V. F. W., of Alliance, were placed at the rostrum. Chief of Staff Huburb read the institution warrant.

The meeting was then turned over to Floyd Hughes Post No. 693, of Canton, degree team. There were thirty-five veterans who took the degree work. Five members transferred from other posts to Sebring post. After completion of the floor work the meeting was turned over to District Commander Stevens, of Warren, for the election of the officers. First officers were — Lester Brendlinger, Commander; Robert Bennett, Sr. Vice Commander; Claude Murry, Jr., Vice Commander; Dale Larkins, Quartermaster; Donald Wilson, Adjutant; Homer A. Henderson, Surgeon; Albert W. Eaton, Chaplain; Gordon Welch, Earl W. West, and George J. Wilson were elected trustees; Harold Jackson, Officer of the Day; John D. Myler, Service Officer; Thomas Woods, Historian; John Dailey, Guard. Eighth District Chief of Staff, Harley Tubbs, of Akron, installed the officers.

Commander Hubert Collums, of Post No. 1036, Alliance, made a contribution from that post.

On Mother's Day, May, 1946, Post No. 6730 presented each gold star mother of Sebring a potted plant, which was done through the Alliance post. In following years this was done by the V. F. W. and the American Legion of Sebring.

On May 25, 1946, the post handled their first poppy sale, which was made by disabled veterans in hospitals. This money is used for the relief fund for the disabled veterans and their families.

In May, 1946, the post started to meet at the Citizens Bank Building. On August 6, 1946, the post started to meet at the K. of P. Building, while it was trying to purchase the building. On August 30, 1946, the post purchased the building.

In March, 1947, the Ladies Auxiliary was formed. In April, 1947, the auxiliary officers were installed and instituted by Mrs. May Leman, of Ralph Huff Post No. 1062, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Other commanders serving the Post were as follows: April, 1947, Comrade Irwin was installed commander; reelected in 1948, resigned in June; and Sr. Vice Commander Paul Reed was installed as commander. In April, 1949, Comrade Paul Cecil was installed as commander.

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#### THINK OF THIS

In 1901 it was stated that the sale of tickets at the Sebring Pennsylvania station was enormous. Around 27,000 round trip tickets to Alliance were reported sold. Frequently as many as 300 passengers were waiting to board one of the many trains which stopped in Sebring.

# Boys and Girls of This Area Who Served Their Country in World War II

## A

\*Anderson, John R.  
Anderson, Vaughn N.  
Anderson, Kenneth R.  
\*Abmyer, Richard  
Abmyer, Donald  
Applegate, Norman  
Applegate, Jack R.  
Allcorn, Clyde E.  
Allcorn, Alfred N.  
Allcorn, Melvin R.  
Allen, Floyd T.  
Allen, Glenn R.  
Allen, John C., Jr.  
Aebi, Willard  
Aebi, Elmer H.  
Ailes, Richard H.  
Andrews, Merle S.  
Atkinson, Robert  
Augustine, Lynn A.  
Atherton, Robert  
Amabeli, James  
Austin, Donald  
Adams, James N.  
Appthorp, Ronald  
Abney, Lloyd W.  
Albert, Gerald E.  
Augsberger, Harold

## B

Barnes, Earl  
Braidic, George M.  
Braidic, Edward  
Bye, Leonard E.  
Bye, Joseph D.  
Bert, Chester J.  
Bert, Joseph W.  
Buck, William D.  
Buck, Charles Edwin  
Braden, Richard  
Braden, Curtis J.  
Biery, Alwin L.  
Biery, Robert A.  
\*Baumgartner, Charles O.  
Baumgartner, Donald G.  
Borton, Lewis H.  
Borton, Clarence  
Brunie, Fred H. Jr.  
Brunie, Edward Jr.  
Beckett, Charles R.  
Beckett, Dale  
Bryan, Robert E.  
Burley, Atley L.  
Best, William Jr.  
Best, Karl P.  
Brown, Theron C.  
Brown, James C.  
Brown, William Jr.

Brown, Robert R.  
Baker, Ellery J.  
Baker, Edward W.  
Baker, Richard R.  
Bandy, Lewis L.  
Bandy, Alton W.  
Bandy, Edwin H. Jr.  
Bostwick, Bernard  
Bostwick, Ralph G.  
Blake, Warnard  
Blake, Glenn  
Blake, Kenneth W.  
Blake, Earl J.  
Blake, Melvin  
Blake, Leo  
Blake, Raymond  
Bradley, Edward E.  
Bradley, Niomia E.  
Brooks, Earl G. Jr.  
Brooks, Kathleen M.  
Barnett, George E.  
Bruderly, John Edwin  
Beaver, Leonard  
Birch, James P.  
Blendenbacker, J. R.  
Bailey, David D.  
\*Bayley, Francis  
Ballantyne, Quentin W.  
Ball, William E.  
Baddeley, Albert E. Jr.  
Brock, Lester  
Berry, Albert A.  
Bland, Leroy E.  
Bennett, Robert  
Beck, Gerald  
Boyd, John E.  
Boster, Eugene E.  
Boyle, Curtis  
Baxter, Oliver  
Bennett, Jane  
Bussard, John  
Blazer, Thomas E.  
Bennington, Gordon  
Boehm, Fred  
Brenner, Fred H.  
Burrier, Russell M.  
Benning, Michael H.  
Bansberg, William H.  
\*Brendlinger, Davis Albert  
Brendlinger, Richard E.  
Brendlinger, Earl Jr.  
Brunt, Vernon E.  
Brunt, Leonard R.  
Brunt, John  
Brunt, George  
Burgess, Edward V.  
Burgess, Paul A.

Burgess, Donald  
Burgess, Wayne W.  
Briggs, John E.  
Briggs, Walter J.  
Briggs, Willard J. Jr.  
Briggs, Roger W.  
Briggs, Donald  
Brimlow, Joseph B.  
Brimlow, Ernest  
Brimlow, George R.  
Booth, Roy G.  
Booth, Clyde E.  
Blasiman, Lester J.  
Blasiman, Russell E.  
Buehler, Norman E.  
Buehler, Elmer R.  
Barnes, Arthur  
Barnes, Merle W.

## C

Clunen, Wilbur  
Calderone, John S. Jr.  
Calderone, Joe J.  
Conny, James R.  
Conny, Frank W.  
Conny, Henry, P.  
\*Cramer, George D.  
Cramer, John T. Jr.  
Cramer, Glenn  
Cramer, Herbert  
Cummings, George Earl  
Cummings, James L.  
Crewson, Ray C.  
Crewson, Harry B. Jr.  
Crewson, Leland H.  
Choma, Mike  
Choma, Joseph  
Campbell, William T.  
Campbell, Donald W.  
Campbell, Robert  
Campbell, William W.  
Campbell, Charles L.  
Campbell, Charles P.  
Court, George H.  
Court, Herbert W.  
Courtney, Robert  
Courtney, Floyd  
Courtney, Floren  
\*Courtney, Donald J.  
Courtney, Ronald G.  
Courtney, Wade  
Cameron, Russell H.  
Cameron, Ralph C.  
Cameron, Roger F.  
Cardinal, John G.  
Cardinal, John L.  
Cardinal, Robert  
Cardinal, George Jr.

Cobbs, Kenneth W.  
 Cobbs, James D.  
 Cobbs, Robert D.  
 Cobbs, Virgil L.  
 Cobbs, Irwin F.  
 Cobbs, Glenn Russell  
 Coffman, James C.  
 Coffman, Fred  
 Cranston, Donald P.  
 Clark, Roland D.  
 Clark, Andrew  
 Casto, Ernest E.  
 Coleman, George  
 Cunningham, Paul C.  
 Conrad, Francis E.  
 Cress, Carl  
 Cattell, Clarence R.  
 Comer, Robert F.  
 Clupper, William E.  
 Cosgrove, Lester C.  
 Colvin, Richard Jr.  
 Carman, James D.  
 Carman, Earl  
 Carmen, Richard  
 Cady, Lyman Jr.  
 Chapelow, Ernest J.  
 Chapman, Lee R.  
 Cartwright, Thomas B.  
 Collins, Boyd Ward  
 Carner, William L.  
 Crawford, Edward L.  
 \*Crawford, John J.

## D

Dickson, Raymond  
 Dickson, Charles  
 Demark, Tony  
 Demark, Paul  
 Davis, Francis  
 Davis, Orlando R.  
 Davis, George H.  
 Dailey, John  
 Dailey, Eugene R.  
 Duchon, Cy Jr.  
 Detlhon, Herbert J.  
 Duff, Marion O.  
 Duff, Elmer H.  
 Duff, John Voris  
 Dawson, Jay  
 Dawson, Anthony H.  
 Dawson, Gordon A.  
 Dawson, Samuel  
 Dawson, Marion  
 Davenport, Harold  
 Downard, Paul  
 Dhugozima, Stanley H.  
 Dragomir, Thomas  
 Dicks, George  
 Debolt, James  
 Dorsey, Lester V.  
 Dimit, Wilbur J.  
 Derby, Paul N.

## E

Eaton, James H.  
 Eaton, Raymond  
 Eaton, Chester H.  
 Eaton, Elbert W.  
 Earley, Glenn L.  
 Earley, William R.  
 Erwin, Lawrence F.  
 Erwin, Alfred G.  
 Evans, David B.  
 Evans, Arthur M.  
 Evans, Brynley B.  
 Evans, Charles  
 Eells, E. Earl  
 Eells, Daniel A.  
 Eells, Arthur R.  
 Eddy, Robert J.  
 Eddy, Walter John  
 Eberling, Everett M.  
 Eckelberry, Robert W.  
 Eckley, Harry  
 Eshelman, William R.  
 Eans, Lawrence E.  
 Evasicu, Nick  
 Elliott, Donald J.  
 Engle, Greeta M.

## F

Fowler, Franklin L.  
 Fowler, Evan C.  
 Ferguson, Dallas D.  
 Ferguson, Robert G.  
 \*Fryfogle, Leonard L.  
 Fryfogle, Ellis E.  
 Fryfogle, William E.  
 Fahnert, Curtis E.  
 Fahnert, Curtis E. Jr.  
 Fahnert, John  
 Fitzwater, D. E.  
 Fitzwater, Buren G.  
 Fairbanks, Harold E.  
 Fairbanks, James A.  
 Freetage, George H.  
 Freetage, Ervin R.  
 Freetage, Timothy W.  
 Fultz, Carl N.  
 Fultz, Raymond  
 Flowers, Charles Jr.  
 Flowers, Wilfred  
 Freed, William H.  
 Fargo, John  
 Farmer, Leroy  
 Florea, Philip  
 Fraser, Charles R.  
 Fleischer, Charles C.  
 Folk, Richard F.  
 Faudree, William P.  
 Failor, Eugene W.  
 Frank, Dominic  
 Flickinger, Ralph L.

## G

Gallier, Donald E.  
 Gretzinger, F. L.  
 Gempler, David H.  
 Green, Robert W.  
 Green, Paul  
 Greene, Vernon E.  
 Goddard, Luther E.  
 Goddard, Joseph H.  
 Glekler, John  
 Gibbons, Merle T.  
 Gibbons, Eldon L.  
 Gibbons, Dale R.  
 Grindley, Dean E.  
 Grindley, George P.  
 Good, Raymond Jr.  
 Garloch, Delbert W.  
 Goodballet, George  
 Gossiaux, Jules J.  
 Gorby, Beryl W.  
 Gfeller, Herman W.  
 Gaither, Joe  
 Greenawalt, John W.  
 Grimsley, Vernon J.  
 Groves, W. Derwood  
 Gardner, Kenneth F.  
 Gould, Charles R.  
 Gillis, William L.  
 Gillis, Eugene

## H

Hillary, Karl A.  
 Harding, William C.  
 Harding, John B.  
 Hineman, Charles  
 Hoopes, Paul L.  
 Hoopes, I. Floyd  
 Hughes, Russell J.  
 Hughes, Robert C.  
 Hughes, William J.  
 Hughes, Leland Eugene  
 Haupt, Winfield S. Jr.  
 Haupt, Ernest L.  
 Haupt, Richard F.  
 Haupt, Billie D.  
 Hahlen, Evelyn L.  
 Hahlen, Russell H.  
 Hahlen, Dale E.  
 Higgins, Robert R.  
 Higgins, Harold L.  
 Higgins, James  
 Holt, James H.  
 Hoyle, Merle F.  
 Hill, Charles  
 Heverly, Betty J.  
 Hetrick, Paul H.  
 Hawkins, Charles  
 Hawkins, Catherine  
 Hawkins, Joseph  
 Hawkins, Ralph  
 Hawkins, John E.

\*Hutmacher, Harold  
 Hutmacher, Henry E.  
 Hutmacher, Sam E. Jr.  
 Heacock, Robert E.  
 Heacock, Clinton H.  
 Heacock, Melvin C.  
 Heacock, Dudley J.  
 Hennon, William W.  
 Hennon, William F. Jr.  
 Hartley, Paul J.  
 Hartley, Robert J.  
 Hall, Howard T.  
 Hall, Donald R.  
 Hall, John R.  
 Hartzell, Roland  
 Hartzell, John  
 Harlan, Thomas D.  
 Handy, Charles L.  
 Hampton, Millard G.  
 Haynes, Donald  
 Hundt, Albert C.  
 Hundt, Dale L.  
 Hundt, Ralph C.  
 Hanning, George W.  
 Hanning, Howard  
 Hendershot, David  
 Hendershot, Warren S.  
 Henderson, Robert R.  
 Henderson, Robert W.  
 Henderson, Norman E.  
 Henderson, Homer A.  
 Hayes, Harry Odell  
 Hays, Emerson A.  
 Hyronimus, Alvin  
 Helsel, Thomas  
 Hoffman, Jack Floyd  
 Herman, Andrew  
 Hetherington, Dean L.  
 Horni, Charles J.  
 Horning, Harold A.  
 Hoskinson, Kenneth  
 Heslep, Charles I.  
 Haupt, George  
 Harris, Oliver  
 Housel, Ross E.  
 Howell, Ford M.  
 Howell, Robert M.  
 Hinton, Margery A.  
 Huth, Fred L.  
 Heestand, Wayne C.  
 Hoffer, A. Glenn  
 Hoffer, Lawrence  
 Haberland, Eugene H.  
 Horn, Robert R.  
 Hamblen, Eugene Vern  
 Hilton, Jack D.  
 Hoff, William F.  
 Hull, Archie G.

# I

Iddings, Dean  
 Iddings, Harold  
 Iddings, Robert L.  
 Irwin, Oren A.  
 Imobersteg, Eldis Ray  
 Irvin, Walter L.  
 Irving, Donald E.

# J

Jackson, John J.  
 Jackson, Harold W.  
 Jordan, James H. Jr.  
 Jordan, Robert L.  
 Jeswald, James J.  
 Jeswald, Patrick H.  
 Jones, Leo D.  
 Jones, Gordon D.  
 Jones, Russell B.  
 Johnson, Earl  
 Johnson, Ray F. Jr.  
 Johnson, Daniel J.  
 Johnson, Donald D.  
 Jacobs, Paul V.  
 Jacobs, Elmer D.

# K

\*Kirksey, Joe  
 Kirksey, Rex J.  
 Kirksey, Robert Lee  
 Kinser, Rex Jr.  
 Karnofel, Michael J.  
 Kervin, Thomas  
 Keenan, Charles S.  
 Keenan, Raymond P.  
 Keene, Victor  
 Keene, William H.  
 Kozma, Joe Jr.  
 Kirkham, Orlan D.  
 Kirkham, John F.  
 Kutsch, Richard  
 Klass, Robert Jr.  
 Klass, Bette E.  
 Kramer, John  
 Kinnard, Earl G.  
 Kinnard, Charles W.  
 Kinnard, Sam J.  
 Kinnard, James L.  
 King, James D.  
 Kerek, William  
 Krahling, Norman  
 Krahling, John  
 Kunneman, Wendell J.  
 Kunneman, Joseph  
 Kilkenny, Harold R.  
 Kilkenny, E. Ivan  
 Knisely, Curtis W.  
 Kniseley, Orville H.  
 Kniseley, William M.

Kelly, William E.  
 Kelly, Wilmer A.  
 Kenst, Andrew  
 Kendrick, Roland L.

# L

Lewis, Harold C.  
 Lee, Tony A.  
 Lee, Paul L.  
 Lee, James V.  
 Lee, Harry J.  
 Lee, Ralph J.  
 Locker, Kitchener H.  
 Lindley, Maurice R.  
 LeFevre, Albert C.  
 Larmon, Thomas  
 Lower, Robert W.  
 Lower, John E.  
 Lautenschlager, H. K.  
 Larkins, Lynn H.  
 Larkins, Joseph M.  
 Larkins, Dale W.  
 Larkins, Ronald D.  
 Larkins, David C.  
 Larkins, Simeon J.  
 Lalu, J. Fred  
 Lang, John E. Jr.  
 Luke, Jerome  
 Lofland, David E.  
 Lamp, John H.  
 Lockheart, Fred F.  
 Leasure, Delbert  
 Leighton, Clyde J.  
 Lindsay, William J.  
 Lindsay, Buster W.  
 Lister, Raymond B.

# Mc

McVay, Edgar C. Jr.  
 McLaughlin, Robert D.  
 McLaughlin, William E.  
 McLaughlin, Arthur R.  
 \*McLaughlin, Richard J.  
 McGowan, Lawrence E.  
 McGowan, Thomas E.  
 McCune, E. Troy  
 McElroy, Clarence M.  
 McElroy, James E.  
 McGrath, Fischer C.  
 McIlwham, Archibald  
 \*McClure, Robert L.  
 McClure, F. Ray  
 McClure, Charles L.  
 McClaren, James N.  
 McDaniel, Donald  
 McDaniel, Lorin L.  
 McDaniel, James L.  
 McPherson, Robert L.  
 McRea, Clifford  
 \*McKown, Bryan Jr.

McNatt, Elmer  
 McNatt, Charles  
 McIntyre, J. Robert  
 McIntyre, Clarence E.  
 McBride, Harold W.  
 McBride, Willard  
 McIlvain, Charles F.  
 McIlvain, Howard D.  
 McEldowney, Willard W.

## M

Morrison, Robert L.  
 Morrison, Freeman J.  
 Malmsberry, Ralph  
 Mooney, Clarence W.  
 Morley, Lynn S.  
 Metzgar, George E.  
 Morgan, Edward M.  
 Morgan, Jack Louis  
 Mordue, G. William  
 Mordue, Robert A.  
 Miskelly, George  
 Miskelly, William  
 Murray, Claude  
 Minesinger, David  
 Mitcheltree, Jack  
 Mylar, Donald V.  
 Mylar, Duane M.  
 Mylar, John D.  
 Myers, Ray  
 Myers, Richard F.  
 \*Morrow, Harold F.  
 Morrow, Phillip  
 Morrow, Charles E.  
 Moss, Robert L.  
 Moss, Eugene V.  
 \*Miller, Charles L.  
 Miller, James D.  
 Miller, Russell A.  
 Miller, Donald A.  
 Miller, George  
 Miller, Gene E.  
 May, Gerald L.  
 May, Regis C.  
 May, Robert A.  
 May, William L.  
 May, James E.  
 Mellor, Harold I.  
 Mellor, John A. Jr.  
 Mellor, Albert A.  
 Meir, John  
 Martin, Earl W.  
 Martin, C. Kenneth  
 \*Martin, John E. III  
 Meek, Robert W.  
 Mazanti, John P.  
 Mankin, Clarence  
 Mankin, Frank C.  
 Mason, Floyd H.  
 Mason, Glenn

Manning, Martha E.  
 Munsell, Harold E.  
 Munsell, William L.  
 Moore, Charles S.  
 Moore, Arthur W.  
 Manypenny, Francis  
 Manypenny, Glenn E.  
 \*Millner, William M.  
 Muerth, Arthur G.  
 Matheny, Mansfield  
 Marsh, Alfred L.  
 Marshall, Richard P.  
 Marshall Dareld  
 Maiden, James G.  
 Mummert, Robert  
 Michael, Jack  
 Maley, Arthur F.

## N

Nelson, Lawrence J.  
 Nelson, Ralph  
 Naylor, H. Robert  
 Nordquist, Edward G.  
 Nordquist, Ray D.  
 Needham, James  
 Newton, Harold E.  
 Nulf, Loretta  
 Notman, Paul L.  
 Notman, P. LaVerne  
 Nezbeth, Joseph P.  
 \*Null, Stanton H. (Salem)

## O

Ormiston, Kenneth E.  
 Ormiston, Carl J.  
 Ormiston, Alvin  
 Ormiston, Clyde L.  
 Oliver, Edward W.  
 Oliver, Robert H.  
 Oroz, Frank  
 Oswalt, F. LaRayne  
 Oswalt, Harold S.  
 Owen, Elroy R.  
 Ogden, Russell  
 Ogden, Thomas  
 Oesch, Lawrence  
 Oldfield, George W.

## P

Papadeonise, Denis  
 Papadeonise, James  
 Palermo, Nick  
 Palermo, John  
 Pruett, Clifton R.  
 Pruett, Eugene H.  
 Poulaillon, Lloyd  
 Pinkerton, Robert  
 Pinkerton, Floyd E.  
 Pinkerton, Oliver D.  
 Pinkerton, Allen E.  
 Pinkerton, Ralph J.  
 Pinkerton, Bruce B.  
 Pinkerton, Raymond E.

Pinkerton, Charles L.  
 Potter, Samuel  
 Pidgeon, J. K.  
 Phillips, Harold W.  
 \*Phillips, Roy E.  
 Pelley, James Jr.  
 Pettit, Earl W.  
 Petro, Samuel  
 Pinnick, Robert H.  
 Parr, Edwin B.  
 Peddicord, Earl M.  
 Peddicord, Harry W.  
 Penrose, Kenneth E.  
 Pollock, J. Wesley  
 Patton, Clara E.  
 Pim, Loren C.  
 Peterson, John W.  
 Pope, Olive E.  
 Panunzio, James V.  
 Perkins, Jack D.

## R

Richenbach, Richard L.  
 Rittenhouse, Harry C.  
 Rittenhouse, Wade A.  
 Rouse, Robert J.  
 Rouse, Albert  
 Rogers, Jonathan E.  
 Rogers, William F.  
 Richards, Andrew  
 Reed, Paul J.  
 Reinhart, Edward  
 Runyon, Harry E.  
 Rutan, M. Dale  
 Rehburg, Homer A.  
 Ralston, Richard C.  
 Reichart, Robert E.  
 Ripple, Roy  
 Reedy, George J.  
 Rankin, Jess W.

## S

Smith, John W.  
 \*Smith, Robert T.  
 Smith, William E.  
 Smith, Howard  
 Smith, William T.  
 Smith, John J. Jr.  
 Smith, Robert R.  
 Smith, J. Paul  
 Smith, John R.  
 Smith, William, R.  
 Smith, Fred J.  
 Smith, Charles E.  
 Smith, Paul W.  
 Smith, Paul H.  
 Sellars, Osborne  
 Snyder, George L.  
 Snyder, Harry Olin  
 Snyder, William K.  
 Strain, John M.

Stanford, Wilbur Jr.  
 Stroble, Louis H.  
 Stroble, Owen  
 Sutherin, Lester C.  
 \*Spencer, Robert C.  
 Shearrow, Kenneth A.  
 Shearrow, Charles W.  
 Salter, Raymond E.  
 Sams, Joseph M.  
 Sams, Donald J.  
 Sams, Joseph H.  
 Schneider, Thomas  
 Schneider, Michael  
 Schneider, William G.  
 Schneider, Emil  
 Severance, Gerald A.  
 Stackhouse, William S.  
 Stackhouse, H. Dean  
 Sanderson, Raymond  
 Sanderson, Richard  
 Schaffer, Wilford E.  
 Schaffer, Laverne D.  
 Sedon, Paul M.  
 Sears, Weston  
 Savage, Raymond T.  
 Savage, Kenneth L.  
 Savage, Maynard A.  
 Savage, Eldon Laverne  
 Steves, Elmer  
 Sharpnack, George L.  
 Sharpnack, Robert  
 Schwartzoff, Walter J.  
 Schwartzoff, Victor T.  
 Shively, Virgil A.  
 Shively, Robert E.  
 Shively, Robert D.  
 Schmeid, Arnold  
 Schmeid, Fred Edwin Jr.  
 Stitch, Raymond  
 Stitch, John M.  
 Schubert, John  
 \*Schubert, George  
 \*Schubert, Elmer  
 Steed, Bernard A.  
 Steed, Dennis L.  
 Sanders, Francis Lee  
 Sanders, Richard H.  
 Sanders, Wallace L.  
 Stoffer, Carl  
 Stoffer, Homer  
 Senich, Dominic L.  
 Seidel, John H.  
 Schenk, William A.  
 Schroeder, John R.  
 Schroeder, Arthur F.  
 Schroeder, Philip L.  
 Steele, Harold E.

Steele, Harry J.  
 Steele, Derald E.  
 Schaal, William J.  
 Stanley, Irwin N.  
 Stanley, Myron  
 Stanley, Kenneth L.  
 Seffens, Eugene  
 Seffens, James F.  
 Sandquist, Edward  
 Scalley, Robert E.  
 Shinn, Thurston A. Jr.  
 Scarbino, Nick J.  
 Simpson, Earl  
 Saunier, Ernest L.  
 Saunier, Elmer  
 Schuman, Raymond R.  
 Sutton, Fred  
 Sutton, Raymond  
 Sebo, Margaret  
 Simmons, John P.  
 Stern, Herman  
 Seemann, Charles E.  
 Skelding, Thomas  
 Seidner, William A.  
 Surls, Harry C.  
 St. John, Paul D.  
 Speakman, Floyd J.  
 Seitz, Edwin Lee  
 Slagle, Harry Richard  
 \*Sims, Raymond E.  
 Sihock, William G.  
 Shade, Lawrence L.

## T

Tuel, Donald E.  
 Tuel, Ronald L.  
 Tuel, Roger C.  
 Tuel, Clifford  
 \*Taylor, Roger W.  
 Taylor, William  
 Taylor, Cyril W.  
 Tanner, Robert L.  
 Tanner, Robert E.  
 Thomas, Harley D.  
 Thomas, Dale H.  
 Thompson, Robert  
 Thompson, Harvey  
 Thompson, Jane  
 Thompson, John A.  
 Tannehill, C. M.  
 Toban, Harry E.  
 Thill, Louis D.  
 Tracy, John A.  
 Tetlow, Alva Jr.  
 Torbert, Louis A.  
 Townsend, Edward W.  
 Turner, Joseph  
 Turner, Richard R.

## V

Virgil, John G.  
 Votaw, Raymond, Lester  
 Virden, Robert L.  
 Virden, Warren  
 Vanetti, Dominic C.  
 Vanetti, John E.  
 Vogt, Ruth E.  
 \*Van Camp, Arland L.

## W

Waugaman, Clinton  
 Waugaman, Margaret L.  
 Waugaman, Eleanor G.  
 Wright, Harold  
 Wright, George W.  
 Wright, Anna Mae  
 Weinhofer, John  
 Winstanley, George  
 Weast, Arthur T.  
 Weast, Carl F.  
 Wilt, Leonard C.  
 Wilt, Elwood F.  
 Wood, Homer  
 Woods, Donnell R.  
 Woods, Joseph I.  
 Woods, Thomas M. Jr.  
 Wood, Harold L.  
 Wood, Jack  
 Wareham, Raymond  
 Wiley, Clyde K.  
 Woolfe, Arlie Jr.  
 Woolf, Wayne B.  
 Woolf, Robert G.  
 Woolf, Robert E.  
 \*Woolf, Walter L.  
 Woolf, James A.  
 Woolf, Dorothy J.  
 Wolfe, John E.  
 Wolfe, Robert J.  
 Wolfe, J. Newton  
 Winters, John E.  
 Warrick, Victor  
 Wolheter, Charles U.  
 White, Franklin  
 West, Wilbur E.  
 Wible, Carlos  
 \*Watkins, Harold E.  
 Watkins, Richard D.  
 Walker, Donald H.  
 Walker, Leslie L.  
 Walker, Willis A.  
 Walker, W. Howard  
 Walker, Ray E.  
 Whitlatch, Joseph W.  
 Workman, Bryant  
 Workman, Donald  
 Workman, Glenn



# Sebring's Heroes of World War I

## A

Adams, G. W.  
Adams, James  
Albright, D. S.  
Alcors, Dewey  
Alcorn, E. D.  
Alcorn, Elmer F.  
Allison, Clark  
Alvis, John

## B

Ball, Cliff K.  
Barber, Alton  
Barclay, William A.  
Barrett, Emmett  
Bennett, E. Miles  
Bennett, Fred  
Berry, William  
Blumenstiel, Cliff C.  
Born, F. W.  
Boughner, Arthur  
Boyer, Herbert  
Brendlinger, Lester  
Briggs, John H.  
Brooks, John  
Brown, Fred  
Brown, James  
Brown, William E.  
Brueggeman, Walter  
Brunie, Fred  
Brunie, John  
Buehler, Alfred  
Buehler, Frank  
Buehler, John

## C

Caldwell, Chas. M.  
Calvert, Isaac  
Cameron, Morris  
Campbell, Bruce  
Campbell, Howard  
Carebet, George  
Carrier, Elmer  
Cartwright, Frank  
Cartwright, Raymond  
Clegg, Chas.  
Coe, Ed.  
Coe, George M.  
Coeburn, Leroy  
Conley, George  
Cook, Clarence A.  
Cook, H. M.  
Cook, James  
Crampkin, Chas.  
Crawforl, Frank M.  
Culler, Ira

## D

Daniels, J. J.  
Dawson, A. H.  
Deemer, R. S.  
Donaldson, John  
Drum, Chas.  
Dumpey, John  
Dunlap, Ralph

## E

Eardley, J. G.  
Eckelberry, Ira  
Edwards, John  
Elwonger, R.  
Erb, Henry

## F

Fahnert, C.  
Farrell, H.  
Ferguson, H.  
Flenniken, H.  
Flickinger, Jos. E.  
Fording, Chas.

## G

Gardner, Herman  
Gerard, Albert  
Gibbons, Ed. G.  
Gillis, Chas.  
Gottschall, George  
Green, Bernard C.  
Green, Earl  
Green, Henry  
Green, Jesse  
Green, Otis C.  
Greenawalt, B. H.  
Greene, Lawrence C.  
Greene, Raymond  
Gross, A.  
Gwin, G. F.  
Gwin, George

## H

Haberland, George  
Haberland, H.  
Haberland, H. C.  
Hacker, R. C.  
Haggerty, C.  
Hall, R.  
Hanlon, T. S.  
Hartzel, F. T.  
Haught, George  
Haught, William  
Hawley, A.  
Hazlet, L. R.  
Higgins, R.  
Hilton, A. H.  
Hilton, Herbert

Hines, L.  
Hinkel, C.  
Holland, John  
Hopkins, J. L.  
Holyer, A. J.  
Huber, W. F.  
Hundley, C.  
Huscroft, J. D.

## J

Jackson, Ottis  
Johnson, Earl  
Johnson, Earl  
Johnson, Glen  
Johnson, H.  
Johnson, Mike  
Jones, Roy

## K

Karr, Thos.  
Kelley, E. D.  
Kenard, Samuel  
Kerr, Thos.  
Keyes, John  
Kornish, George

## L

Lamborn, R.  
Lee, Taylor  
Leighton, Samuel  
Lisk, Jesse  
Loudenslagher, J. H.  
Lucas, George  
Lynch, J. A.

## Mc

McBane, Ed.  
McBain, Alva  
McCalmont, H. G.  
McCrum, David B.  
McGowan, G. E.  
McGowan, Patrick  
McGrew, P. H.  
McPhail, Wm.

## M

Manning, Thos.  
Marshal, Frank  
Masters, Orin A.  
Meller, R. W.  
Hellor, J. A.  
Hercer, Earl  
Mercer, Glenn  
Mercer, Russell  
Merrick, Raymond  
Meyers, R. E.  
Miller, Glenn

Miller, John  
Miller, Robert  
Miles, Walter  
Morgan, H. R.  
Moss, Dave  
Murray, N. E.

N

Nelson, Joe  
Nofcinger, June

O

Oliver, T. A.  
Ostermeier, G. M.

P

Palermo, James  
Palermo, P.  
Phillips, Jesse  
Pierson, Louis

R

Rentz, C. E.  
Reynolds, J. W.  
Richards, Warner  
Rodell, L.  
Rogers, Roy  
Rorabaugh, H. J.  
Rouse, E. R.  
Rowland, I.

S

Sanderson, Carl A.  
Schenk, Wm.

Schrecengost, Lester  
Schwab, Emil  
Sebring, F. H.  
Sebring, K. C.  
Seffens, John  
Shaffer, Thomas  
Sharpnack, Seth

Sharpnack, E.  
Shinn, George  
Shively, Dave  
Shively, Robert  
Shively, Wm.  
Simms, Albert  
Singledecker, G.  
Slavin, Joe  
Smith, Harry  
Smith, Wm.  
Staciri, John  
Stanley, Burren  
Stanley, William  
Steffens, John  
Stevens, C. S.  
Stillman, G. H.  
Stowe, R.  
Surls, H. C.  
Sutherin, H. E.

T

Taylor, E. J.  
Taylor, Harry

Thompson, Wm.  
Thorne, A. G.  
Townsend, H. W.  
Trott, James  
Tucker, Steve  
Turney, Anay  
Turney, James

U

Unger, C. A.

W

Walker, Wm.  
Ward, Frank  
Wardel, Edw.  
Watkins, George  
Watson, W. A.  
Welch, Wm.  
Wetzel, Geo. C.  
Williamson, Harley  
Wilson, C. M.  
Windle, Earl  
Wogan, F. S.  
Wogan, Joe  
Wogan, Ray  
Woods, Bryan  
Woolf, F. C.  
Wright, T. E.  
Wyand, Homer

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## Sebring Boys Who Fought in the Spanish-American War

Crewson, W. S.  
Walker, J. D.  
Boehmer, Harry W.  
Goodballet, Charles  
St. John, Harry  
Manning, Samuel

Heacock, Clarkson  
Huff, Rollie D.  
Mushrush, Guy  
McGaffie, W. J.  
Adams, George  
Thornberry, M. L.

Stroble, Henry  
Link, Frank  
Burgess, John  
Thompson, Ray  
Sharp, Frank

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### GOLD STAR MOTHERS - WORLD WAR II

Mrs. Martha Brendlinger, Mrs. Alice Baumgartner, Mrs. Grace Bailey (deceased), Mrs. Emma Courtney, Mrs. John Cramer, Mrs. Blanche Crawford, Mrs. Godfrey Edie, Mrs. Flora Fisher, Mrs. Olive Hutmacher, Mrs. Dessie Heichelbech, Mrs. Kirksey, Mrs. Paul Morrow, Mrs. Camilla McLaughlin, Mrs. F. L. McClure (deceased), Mrs. J. E. Martin, Mrs. Grace Miller, Mrs. William Millner (deceased), Mrs. Ada Null, Mrs. Eli Phillips, Mrs. Edith Sims, Mrs. Pearle Steele, Mrs. Stella Spencer, Mrs. J. C. Smith, Mrs. Schubert, Mrs. C. Taylor, Mrs. Rose Tranor, Mrs. Verda Van Camp, Mrs. Celia Watkins, Mrs. Della Weizenecker, Mrs. May Wolfe.

World War I Boys who made the supreme sacrifice were John Brooks, John Key, Jos. E. Flickinger, Clark Allison (killed) and Jesse Phillips died of disease. Keys was killed just before the armistice became effective.

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Patriotic to the n'th degree, Sebring has not only furnished its share of man and woman power in the nation's military efforts, but it has always exceeded its quotas in Red Cross and U. S. O. campaigns to sustain the fighting forces,

# THE SEBRINGS--OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

## Will H. Sebring

A family who could do what the Sebring family has done in the last half century, had it all happened in the current days of extravagant praise and unbridled criticism would rate a magazine story on the subject, "The Sensational Sebrings." Coming up from humble surroundings, with parents of fine character but certainly not great wealth, the Sebring's achieved great success in their chosen field of dinnerware manufacture, became wealthy and influential, and built a town that ranks with the better American towns and small cities in every way. Their energy and ambition were at their height in the first quarter of the century, when they made the first page with their enterprises and laid the foundation for a pottery center that was to grow into one second in importance to none in the country. The story of their lives is one that a Horatio Alger might easily convert into a best seller.

And yet in fifty years after their ambitions began to take shape, the six Sebring boys have all followed their esteemed parents into the realm of the departed and their life work lies in the hands of others who are to carry on and with the improved facilities of another era raise the banner of Sebring and its industries and products to new heights. A brief resume of the lives of the Sebrings will be interesting.

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GEORGE E. SEBRING, Father, died in the year 1915.

ELIZABETH LARKINS SEBRING, Mother, died in the year 1910.

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The elder Sebrings came to the new town with their children, making their home here for several years. Their first home was the former farm home of the Grays, later the L. A. Bandy home. Afterwards the present home of Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Warren was built and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Sebring until their deaths. They were buried in a centrally located lot in beautiful Grandview cemetery, south of Sebring.

The six sons died in the following order: 1904, Will H.; 1925, Fred E.; 1927, George E.; 1929, Oliver H.; 1936, Frank A.; 1937, Ellsworth H. Sebring.

The following excerpts are from newspaper notices printed at the time of their deaths and are given rather fully here because they contain items of historical interest concerning the town as well as the family.

Will H. Sebring was born in East Liverpool, Ohio, December 29, 1869. He came to the new town of Sebring, Ohio, with his four brothers in 1899, and was affiliated with his brother Frank in the Sebring Pottery Company. He was killed by a Pennsylvania Railroad passenger train at the 15th street crossing the night of December 9, 1904. He was survived by his wife, Eva Huston Sebring, and two children, Earl E. and Virginia.

## Fred E. Sebring

Fred E. Sebring, age 57 years, 438 North 15th street, died Sunday, December 13, 1925, about noon, when he was seized with a heart attack. Mr. Sebring had just returned from a six weeks' trip to Sebring, Florida, and was telling his wife of his pleasant trip, when he was stricken.

Mr. Sebring was born in East Liverpool, October 4, 1868. Twenty-three years ago he came to Sebring, being engaged in pottery work. For a number of years Mr. Sebring was head of the Limoges China Company. About ten years ago he erected the Saxon China Company plant, which he sold in 1917 on account of ill health. Since then he has interested himself in real estate activities.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Katherine Surls Sebring, two daughters, Mrs. F. W. Andrews, Alliance, and Mrs. Howard McCalmont, Salem; six grandchildren, and the following brothers and sisters, George, of Sebring, Florida, O. H., E. H. and F. A. of Sebring, Ohio, Mrs. Eva Norris, of Akron, Mrs. James Barclay of Sebring, Ohio.

Mr. Sebring was a charter member of the Sebring Rotary club, and a member of the K. of P. lodge. He was a very faithful member of the United Presbyterian church, always present and ready to help at whatever was to be done.

Funeral services were held at the home Wednesday afternoon, December 16th, 1925, final resting place at Grandview cemetery, Sebring, Ohio.

## George E. Sebring

George E. Sebring, age 68, died very suddenly at Sebring, Florida, on Tuesday night, January 4, 1927, of acute indigestion. Mr. Sebring had been in apparently good health and had filled a speaking engagement in a nearby town that afternoon. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Cora Harris Sebring, and five children, George Eugene, Jr., Payne, Dorothy and Orville, all of Sebring, Fla., and Mrs. Samuel Rose, of Baltimore, Maryland; three brothers and two sisters, Mrs. Emma Barclay, E. H., O. H. and F. A. all of Sebring, Ohio, and Mrs. Eva Norris, of Akron,

He was a life-long member of the Methodist church. Funeral services were held with burial at Sebring, Florida.

George E. Sebring always did much for the betterment and advancement of the community in which he lived. He was one of the founders of Sebring, Ohio. He came here with his five brothers, Will H., E. H., F. A., Fred and O. H. in the year 1899 to lay out the city. In 1887, along with his brothers, he bought the old Agner-Foutts pottery in East Liverpool, changing the name to the Sebring Brothers Pottery Company. Much could be said of what Mr. Sebring did for Sebring to contribute to its progress from that time until 1911, when he and his son, Orville Sebring, founded Sebring, Florida. His interest and work in building up a new city was continued with that same earnestness and zeal that had been shown in his efforts in Sebring, Ohio.

The Sebrings are men who put their whole lives into the undertaking in which they are interested, sparing themselves not at all. Success has rewarded their foresight and energy, and they have made the name "Sebring" nationally known both through the products of their manufacture and by the two thriving towns that have been named for him - Sebring, Ohio and Sebring, Fla.

#### Oliver H. Sebring

The funeral of O. H. Sebring was held at the Sebring home, on West Ohio avenue, Sebring, Saturday afternoon, July 27, 1929, and was private. Rev. W. H. Bryenton of the First M. E. church, Mr. Sebring's pastor, was in charge, assisted by Rev. Joseph H. Smith, of Redlands, California, one of the special workers at the Sebring camp meeting, and President W. H. McMaster, of Mount Union college. Professor J. E. Campbell, of Marion, Indiana, who was in charge of the singing at the camp meeting, sang two special numbers. Interment was made in the private mausoleum at Grandview cemetery, Sebring.

Mr. Sebring's death occurred at 4:30 Wednesday morning, July 24, 1929, at his home, following a heart attack with which he was seized about 1:30 a. m. With his son, Bert Sebring, Mr. Sebring had been at Cleveland Tuesday for an examination by Dr. Crile, and had arranged to undergo an operation Thursday for goitre, at the Cleveland Clinic hospital. His heart had been pronounced in good condition for the operation. The previous winter, Mr. Sebring suffered a severe attack of influenza, and had never fully recovered from its effects, and even before that he had been in failing health for some time.

Born in East Liverpool, July 14, 1857, Mr. Sebring came to southwestern Mahoning county with his brother George in 1899 to establish the town of Sebring and erect their own potteries.

While F. A., E. H., Fred and William Sebring, brothers, were interested in the project, it was O. H. and George who came here in 1899, engineered the purchase of 200 acrs of land and began platting the town to bear their name. Later, a 160 acre tract of land was added to the holdings.

The first pottery was named the Oliver China Co., honoring Mr. Sebring, who was the oldest of the six brothers.

In 1900 the Sebring pottery was moved here from East Liverpool and the following year the French China was moved to this city. Following the sale of the Ohio China Company at East Palestine, the Sebring pottery was erected here. It is now known as the Limoges China.

In 1903 the Sebring interests were separated, O. H. and E. H. retaining control of the French China. Later O. H. Sebring purchased the interest of his brother in this plant. In 1917 he acquired the Saxon China and about the same time purchased the Strong Manufacturing Co.

The Sebring Manufacturing Corporation was formed in 1925 with O. H. Sebring as president and principal owner. It included three plants, The French China, the Saxon China and the Strong Manufacturing Company. Early this year (1929) this company joined the American Chinaware Corporation, which was organized among eastern Ohio pottery owners. Mr. Sebring was the prime promoter of this organization.

Shortly after the town of Sebring was established Mr. Sebring started the Citizens Banking company and was its president until 60 days before his death, when the bank was sold. He and his son, Bert H. Sebring, were owners of the Sebring Cooperage Company.

Besides his interests in Sebring, O. H. was a director and vice president of the Knowles, Taylor and Knowles pottery at East Liverpool, and vice president of the Louis H. Porter Co., of Chicago. Mr. Sebring was in active charge of all his interests.

Mr. and Mrs. Sebring were married September 7th, 1878. Besides his wife, Mrs. Matilda (Hume) Sebring, Mr. Sebring is survived by four daughters, Mrs. W. L. (Annie) Murphy of Sebring, Mrs. Homer J. (Pearl) Taylor of East Liverpool, Mrs. Ray Y. (Hazel) Cliff of Chicago and Miss Wilda Sebring of New York City. One son, Bert H. of Alliance, two brothers and two sisters, E. H. and F. A. of Sebring, Mrs. Eva Norris of Pasadena, California, and Mrs. James (Emma) Barclay, of Sebring, also survive.

#### Frank A. Sebring

Frank A. Sebring, 71, died Monday, November 23, 1936, at Lakeside hospital in Cleveland, of coronary thrombosis. He went to Cleveland Friday for weekly bath treatments. Taken ill on Saturday, he was removed to the hospital, where death occurred.

Mr. Sebring and five brothers founded Sebring, with business experience and knowledge of the pottery industry gained in East Liverpool and East Palestine as their background. Only one of the six brothers remains, Ellsworth (Evis) H., who makes his home in Sebring, Fla. Two sisters survive, and a son, C. L. Sebring, and three daughters, Marjorie Keely, Mrs. Nina Walker and Mrs. Ruth Gray.

Frank A. Sebring was born July 20, 1865, at Vanport, Beaver County, Pa., fourth of six sons. With his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Sebring, he moved to East Liverpool when he was five years old. He was married in 1884 to Emma Harbison, of Pittsburgh, who died in 1927. The Sebring brothers started a grocery in East Liverpool in 1885, which was sold after two years. They then bought the old Agner Foutts pottery plant at Second and Market streets in East Liverpool and operated this until 1900 as the Sebring Pottery Co., with Frank as president. They built a second pottery there in 1897, which was named the Klondike.

Frank and George moved part of their interests to East Palestine in 1892, taking over the old East Palestine pottery. They built the Ohio China Co. plant there in 1895 and helped form the Owen China Co. in Minerva and the Bradshaw pottery in Niles. In 1915 they bought the Salem China Company.

After the town of Sebring was started, the first plant built was the Oliver China Co. Later this was sold to George and then to E. H. Sebring. After this plant had crashed with the American Chinaware Corporation, during the depression in the 30's, it eventually passed into the hands of the newly formed Royal China Inc. Frank Sebring was founder of the second pottery in the new town, the Sebring Pottery Co. The third plant erected was the French China Co., by O. H. Sebring. Frank then built the Limoges, and the last of the plants built by the Sebring family was the Saxon, a project of Fred Sebring. Frank moved the plant from Niles to Alliance, renaming it the Leigh.

At the time of his death, Frank was president of the Limoges China Co., and chairman of the board of the Sebring Pottery Co. and Salem China Co. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a Knight Templar, and a member of the Sebring Methodist church. His oldest daughter, Helen Gahriss, died in 1919, and a son, Frank Jr., in December, 1934.

The close of the busy and successful life of Frank Sebring was marked by funeral services held on Thanksgiving day, 1936.

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#### E. H. SEBRING

E. H. Sebring, age 75, the last son of the famous family of six boys who have written their names large in the annals of the pottery industry and who have a town in Ohio and one in Florida bearing their name, passed away in a

hospital in Sebring, Florida, at 1:30 a. m., Monday, February 1, 1937. The body was brought to Sebring, Ohio, for burial in Grandview cemetery.

The deceased will be best remembered here for his long connection with the E. H. Sebring China Company, which occupied the plant built by the Oliver China Company, the first to be built in Sebring, the name of which was changed to the E. H. when purchased by Mr. Sebring in 1911. He operated it successfully until 1931. In his earlier life, deceased had been associated with his brother O. H. in the French China Company, then in East Liverpool. He came to Sebring in 1901 and with his brothers helped to make Sebring the second largest pottery community in this country. Like his brothers, he was always a churchman and was for years on the official board of the Sebring Methodist Episcopal church.

After the E. H. Sebring China Company was taken over by the merger, Mr. Sebring went to Florida, where he enjoyed citrus fruit farming and taking, in some measure, the rest that he had earned. He had been ill for two years or more with a heart affliction, and perhaps had not been in real good health since a very serious goitre operation was resorted to several years before to save his life. He left two sisters, Mrs. Eva Norris of Sebring, Florida, and Mrs. James Barclay of Sebring, Ohio; seven children and eight grandchildren.

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#### MEN OF THE HOUR HELPED MAKE SEBRING

Quite a bit of space is allocated to the six Sebring men who were the real fathers of Sebring. As the town grew many other men of great ability came into the picture to help build Sebring's industries and institutions. A history of Sebring would not be complete without at least mention of them. They deserve much more extended notice. Mention is here made of only a few: C. J. Albright, first manager of the Limoges China Co; William Gahriss, manager of the Limoges; Donald Albright, manager of Limoges; Harrison Keller, president and manager of the Limoges; John M. Horton, manager of the E. H. Sebring China Co.; Ray Y. Cliff, manager of Saxon China Co.; C. L. Sebring, mgr. Sebring Pottery Co.; Harry Weaver, co-founder of Gem Clay Forming Co.; C. E. Albright, co-founder of Gem; Bart Green, co-founder of Gem; Willis Jones, office manager of French China Co; Samuel L. Eardley, superintendent of French China Co.; Thomas Strong, founder Strong Mfg. Co.; Wm. V. Oliver, president French Saxon China Co.; B. L. Miller, president Royal China Inc.; Wm. Hebenschreit, former president Royal China Inc.; Bert Briggs, co-founder Royal China Inc.; George Stanford Sr., co-founder of Spaulding China Co.; Morris Feinberg, co-founder of Spaulding China Co.; W. U. Pfaffli, former president Strong Mfg. Co. and principal moving spirit in founding of the new

Strong; Fred Shaffer, president Strong Mfg. Co.; Wm. H. Metz, executive vice president and manager Strong Mfg. Co.; James Palermo, Sebring Coal and Trucking, Paul N. Henry, office manager.

These men were prominent in industrial growth, but are by no means all. They come in for special mention because Sebring is essentially an industrial town.

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## LABOR in SEBRING

### LOCAL NO. 44, N. B. of O. P.

Local Union No. 44 was organized in October, 1899, with 45 charter members, and John Murry as its first president. Its members now number 578, and Clyde Jones is serving as president.

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### LOCAL UNION NO. 166, N.B. of O.P.

Local Union No. 166 was organized May 13, 1937. First officers were: President, Orval Close; Vice President, Kenneth Roberts; Recording Secretary, Neva Crewson; Financial Secretary, Lawrence Sharp; Treasurer, Rolland Boals; Collector, Clyde Oliver. The number of charter members was 42; present members, 253.

Officers—1949: President, Rolland Boals; Vice President, Robert Greenawalt; Recording Secretary, George Goodballet; Financial Secretary, Pauline Landwert; Treasurer, Ruth Cameron; Collector, Jack Davis.

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### L. U. NO. 192

Meets every two weeks in American Legion hall.

It was organized September 3, 1941, with the following officers: President, Charles Wheeler; Vice President, Earl Brick; Recording Secretary, Wm. H. Berry; Defense Secretary, Francis Ziegler; Treasurer, George Wilcoxon; Financial Secretary, Frank Eells.

The number of charter members was 166. The number of members at present is 219.

Present officers include: President, Earl Rogers; Vice President, Lee Minesinger; Recording Secretary, Hugh Dailey; Defense Secretary, Wm. H. Berry; Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Harold J. Hyronimus.

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### SEBRING LOCAL NO. 277

### INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF PULP, SULPHITE AND PAPER MILL WORKERS

Organized January 25, 1939. First officers: Robert Warth, President; Foster French, Financial Secretary and Treasurer; Holly Brotherton, Vice President; Jack Wright, Guard; Edith Cardinal, Recording Secretary. Number of charter members, 12. Number of present members, 48.

Present officers: William Taylor, President; Robert Hands, Vice President; Daniel Floor, Secretary and Treasurer; Walter Cross, Guard.

## HISTORY OF THE SEBRING BOY SCOUTS

Ernest Hundley was the organizer and the first Scoutmaster of the Boy Scout movement in Sebring. The exact dates are not available for the early history of local scout activities but it is authentic that Mr. Hundley had Scout troop No. 1. This troop was sponsored by the First Presbyterian church. For several years troop No. 1 was served by Mr. Hundley as Scoutmaster. It seems that there were several years following Mr. Hundley's regime that Sebring was without an active Scout troop. A complete history of the troop registrations and their Scoutmasters follows:

Sebring, along with Beloit, Goshen, and Deerfield, forms the Southwest district of the Mahoning Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The Southwest district has been fortunate to have had chairmen with long years of local service. John C. Allen, Sr., was the first district chairman. After he had served four years his duties were faithfully carried on by Olin Shoar who served from 1935 to 1948. A legion of men have gladly donated their services to perform their duties on troop and district committees.

The following are the men who constitute the Southwest District committee of 1949:

Dr. V. P. Martin, district chairman; Robert Clapsaddle, district vice chairman; J. M. Badertscher, district vice chairman; Rev. J. I. Krohn, district commissioner; J. L. McBride, neighborhood commissioner; Harley Eshler, neighborhood commissioner; Fred Jenkins, neighborhood commissioner, Deerfield; Ernest Case, neighborhood commissioner; Jack Applegate, neighborhood commissioner; Fleetwood Harris, neighborhood commissioner; Franklin LeFevre, camping and activities chairman; Rev. E. L. Wagner, training chairman; Denny Steed, advancement chairman; William Miller, finance chairman; Arthur Speakman, health and safety chairman; Jack Berry, organization and extension chairman.

At the present time the district is serving over one hundred and fifty Scouts.

The aims of the Scout movement are to build better character and to develop good citizenship.

Below is a complete record of troop registrations and Scoutmasters:

Troop 68 - Goshen Men's Club - Organized May, 1946 - Dropped June, 1948. Goshen Friends' church - Reregistered July, 1948. Scoutmasters: May, 1946, P. W. Buttermore; July, 1948, Franklin Cummings.

Troop 70 - Deerfield Methodist church - Organized May, 1937. Scoutmasters: May, 1937, F. W. Hampton; June, 1938, Eric Hall; March, 1940, R. W. Hilty; March, 1942, John H. Hower; March, 1943, Walter Hawthorne; March, 1946, Charles G. Powers.

Troop 72 - Sebring Methodist church - Organized May, 1948. Scoutmaster, May, 1948, J. Fleetwood Harris.

Troop 73 - Church of Christ - Organized October, 1928. Scoutmasters: October, 1928, Geo. J. Slagle, Sr.; October, 1933, Ensign Crowl; October, 1935, Victor Herold; October, 1936, William Talbott; March, 1949, James Coffman.

Troop 76 - Sebring Presbyterian church - Organized May, 1931. Dropped May, 1932 and reregistered March, 1934. Scoutmasters. May, 1931, Robert J. Rice; March, 1934, James W. Yates; March, 1935, Wilbur J. Dimit (entered service December, 1943); March, 1944, Dr. V. P. Martin (acting); March, 1945, John R. Hall; January, 1946, Wilbur J. Dimit (returned from service).

Troop 82 - Beloit P. T. A. - Organized December, 1940. Scoutmasters: December, 1940, Lowell Beck; December, 1941, J. F. Scarbrough; December, 1942, Daniel A. Sherick; December, 1943, Walter R. Dlugozime; December, 1944, G. N. Turner.

Troop 88 - Sebring U. P. church - Organized February, 1944. Scoutmasters: February, 1944, Alex Burns, Jr.; February, 1945, Edgar B. Walker; February, 1948, Clinton Levine.

Cub Pack 73 - Church of Christ - Organized December, 1947. Cubmaster: December, 1947, Robert Erb.

Sea Scout Ship 88 - Sebring U. P. church - Organized April, 1949. Skipper, April, 1949, Clyde E. Miller.

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## AMUSEMENTS

The amusement industry in Sebring must have started in 1901 and 1902 with the building of an opera house, described as follows in a paper in December, 1901:

"Grand Opera Company incorporated with capital of \$10,000, building located on Oregon avenue, of modern architecture and a seating capacity of 1,000, a brick building 500 x 159 feet, with balcony. Only first class shows admitted. Is now in process of building and will be well supported in Sebring."

With the advent of the movies the Belmar and Strand theatres were built, the Belmar serving as an auditorium for lyceum attractions, too, and school events, before the McKinley high auditorium was erected. Business in the Belmar was up and down under different management and was closed in the 20's, when the building was purchased by Lee Mack, who had also purchased the Strand. Mr. Mack has modernized the Strand in every way from time to time and offers the movie public a continuous run of the best shows available.

## REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA

Sebring did not share in the great Chautauqua movement until well toward its close, when Redpath Bureau succeeded in organizing local adherents and devotees, who sponsored the first assembly here in 1924. They brought to Sebring their large seven-day circuit Chautauqua program and it was held in their big khaki tent on the present high school grounds from August 21 to 27. Financing a Chautauqua in those days was no child's play and the local committee of 50 guarantors worked hard to sell the event to the public. To make it a strictly non-profit community event it was announced that any profits made would go to the Sebring playgrounds fund. But no profits were made. The sale of seven hundred tickets was guaranteed to the Redpath bureau, at \$2.50 each. While the tent was well filled many times during the seven days, the guarantors had to reach down in their pockets to make up a deficit.

The Chautauqua was continued each summer until 1929, inclusive, when the guarantors were having so many troubles of their own that they no longer cared to risk financing a deficit and a very worthy and fine institution was abandoned. In 1932, Redpath bureau folded up, after holding their Chautauqua in Alliance for the twentieth straight year.

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## A Triumph That Might Have Backfired

On Thursday, July 7, 1932, in the darkest days of the depression, when families were actually running short of food and clothing and threats were being made that stores would be broken open and sacked to stave off hunger, it was decided by local leaders in responsible positions that a trip to Columbus to see the governor was an immediate "must".

So a caravan, headed by the impetuous Bauhof, leader of the unemployed, and containing labor leaders, along with Mayor Al Harmon, Clerk James Elliott, A. I. Heacock, township trustee, and T. D. Keenan, clerk, a Mr. Clupper, an investigator for the county commissioners, and School Superintendent S. H. Pollock and J. E. Torbert, president of the board of education, undertook the long trek to Columbus to see what could be done. Governor White, Major Brouck, and Mr. Chapman, of the state highway department, gave the group attentive ears, and promised definitely that relief would be on its way to Sebring the next day. They also agreed to guarantee the sale of a \$10,000 note in anticipation of a Relief bond sale on July 18th. Everything worked out as prom-

ised.

But at least two of the above group were sitting on needles and pins on the trip to Columbus. Torbert, who had had a slight previous acquaintance with Governor White, and Mr. Pollock, who more recently had come to know him, had made the appointment with the governor and were resting easy until they looked at a telegram from the governor which they were carrying along, and found that the appointment was for a week later. What to do was what troubled them, for they were half way to Columbus when they discovered the mistake.

The wrath of some of that group would be anything but gentle if the trip proved to be for nothing. After a hurried conference the two decided that the only thing to do was to go right ahead and see what happened. It so happened that the governor was in his office when they arrived and when the predicament was explained to him he laughed and said, "oh well, bring them in, and they'll never know that anything pretty nearly went wrong."

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## 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Sebring celebrated its 25th anniversary on September 26-27, 1924. Mayor A. S. Lindsay headed the group staging the event. Among the advertising stunts was loading Kenny Webb's band into Stewart Schofield's truck and visiting all the close-lying villages and towns. Horse races were a prominent feature, with 2:28 and 2:18 trots and a 2:22 pace showing some fast stepping. There were prizes for the best dressed lady and man seen on the streets; an industrial exhibit in the Heacock room; athletic events and sports, including a football game with Alliance; prizes for comic costumes, etc. A 42-piece set of Limoges dinnerware to the oldest person attending. The stores had an unveiling of elaborately decorated and trimmed windows. A good time was had by all.

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## OUR WHITE WAY

Sebring's main north and south street has been lighted by a white way since 1912, except for a time during the depression, when the town was too poor to pay for the juice. The business men of Sebring were responsible for the town having its white way. Bert Baer and John Allen were very active in raising the necessary funds to install it. In the darkest depression days the business men financed the current for a time to help relieve the town of part of the gloom that had settled down over it.

## GIRL SCOUTING

The history of Girl Scouting in Sebring is rather spotty and not too well documented. It seems fairly well established that the beginning of the movement was back some years, probably in the late 20's, when Mrs. Alda Greene started a troop, Miss Jessamae Uhl (Mrs. Mark Myers) starting another at about the same time. Both troop leaders gave much time and talent and no small amount of money to give the girls all the advantages that Scouting offered. Swimming, life saving, cooking, camping and the whole category of Scout activities came in for proper attention. As the girls grew older and the leaders busier with other matters, Scouting dropped out of the picture for a number of years.

In August, 1945, Mrs. Mildred Hess revived Scouting by starting a troop in the Methodist church, which flourished quite well and has led to an organization which continues to this time. Mrs. Hess was assisted or followed by Mrs. Margaret Fairbanks, Mrs. Ray Hilty, Virginia Hutmacher, and others. Today there are three troops of Girl Scouts in town and two troops of Brownies. There are no Senior Scout troops, because of failure to find adequate leadership. The girls finance themselves by a cookie sale in the spring and last year conducted a subscription campaign for the Sebring Times which netted them very well. Occasional gifts are also received.

Mrs. Paul McBride is chairman of the Sebring committee and she and Mrs. J. Herbert are in charge of one of the three troops. Mrs. Helen Trainer is secretary of the general committee and Mrs. Martha Wesley treasurer. Mrs. Wm. Metz is very active in all the work of the committee. Mrs. Wm. Hunter and Mrs. Doris Bankerd head a troop sponsored by the Church of Christ and Mrs. David Reed and Mrs. Sally Eans have a troop from the Presbyterian church. Misses Jeannie Metz and Patty Boehmer are capable assistants in work with the troops.

The Brownies, junior Scouts, were organized within the last year and there are two troops, in charge of Mrs. Jane Smith and Mrs. Paul Cecil, assisted by Mrs. Pelezzari and others.

Girls from 7 to 10 years of age are eligible for the Brownies and the work cut out for them is mostly for their own amusement and by way of getting their hands in. The intermediate group, or the Girl Scouts, have quite a program of activities, which includes their work of raising finances, and also camping and other social matters. There are over one hundred Girl Scouts in Sebring, including the Brownies, and many adults give much time toward making it a wholesome and worthwhile movement in behalf of the girls from school age through the teens.

## WHEN THE DEPRESSION HIT

Some places may have been harder hit than Sebring by the depression of the 30's, but not much. Coming on steadily through 1929, a climax was reached in Sebring in October, 1931, which saw the collapse of the American Chinaware Corporation, carrying down with it the Saxon China Co., the French China Co., the E. H. Sebring China Co., and the Strong Mfg. Co. On October 9th the Citizens Banking Co. posted a notice in its front door that it was in the hands of the State Banking Department.

Of Sebring's plants the only ones left in any kind of operation were the Limoges and Sebring Pottery Co., F. A. Sebring properties, and the Gem Clay Forming Co. The Sebring Pottery and the Limoges were combined for economic reasons.

Plants, stores and individuals were going bankrupt at a rate that left those who remained on their feet holding the sack for others who had taken the count and called it a day.

The town was full of unemployed, who soon found a fearless and capable leader in the fiery Mr. Bauhof, who addressed meetings of the unemployed, and kept those in charge of the unemployment situation forever conscious of the fact that Sebring's unemployed were not to be neglected.

Full use was made of the facilities of the W.P.A. and P.W.A., especially by Superintendent Pollock and the board of education, in getting school repairs, a fine addition to the McKinley building, and an excellent athletic field.

The F. A. Sebring plants kept the town from total despair by giving part time employment to as many workers as possible. Much credit must also go to Miss B. Miller and Wm. Hebenstreit, who hit the town in the dark days with their heads full of sales ideas for pottery, which later led to their buying the old E. H. plant, along with Bert Briggs, and sparking the town in its road back to recovery.

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## EVENTS SCATTERED THROUGH THE YEARS

The Sebring postoffice, then located in the present C. & P. market room, was robbed on Wednesday, July 23, 1930. The burglar got \$200 in cash, \$4,000 in stamps, and overlooked another \$250, probably leaving that for a nest egg, so the P. O. could start up again.

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George Schoch was killed by a train at the Johnson road crossing, while driving across the tracks, on August 12, 1930. His photograph business and art shop were taken over in October by James Fleming, Clarence Unger and Alf Robson.

Willis M. Jones died Wednesday night, Sept. 10, 1930, while he and Mrs. Jones were on a trip.

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In January, 1930, Dr. J. Van Thompson was the first to buy a car from the Ohio Avenue Motor Co., after it had moved to new quarters in the Robinson garage building, following their disastrous fire. He chose a Willys Big Six.

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Governor George White visited Sebring on July 10, 1931, being the central figure in a parade through the center of town and eating supper in the Methodist church annex. He spoke in the high school auditorium that night, and the Red Arrow Quartt sang.

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Sebring has not been strong on county, state or national politics. James M. Elliott, county recorder, is the only Sebring citizen who has been elected to a county office. Hugh Jenkins, former Sebring man, is the only resident being elected to a state office, that of Attorney General.

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## BILLIARDS AND POOL

Under the head of Sports, Athletics, Business or Boosting, or perhaps in all these divisions, must be placed prominently the name of Eddie Howell, founder of Eddie's Sport Shop, whose usefulness and influence in the community far transcended any business in which he might have been engaged. Eddie was a born booster of everything good in the town. His business, pool and billiards, was rightly named sporting headquarters. It was the village club room, where news of baseball and football games came in first, where "downtown coaches" had their main office, where high school and village athletics were more discussed and glorified than stocks and bonds and politics. Eddie, for many years officiated in baseball and football games throughout this section of the state and everybody knew his decisions were honest and as fair as possible under human limitations. His death in 1946 was a distinct loss to the community.

Eddie's place continued after his death, first under the ownership and management of Lyle Painter and at the present time with Bob Iddings as its head. While Eddie himself was still at the helm, it may be noted that two of the greatest all-time stars of billiards, Willie Hoppe and Welker Cochran, played an exhibition three cushion match on his tables.

Another billiard and pool room has since been opened in the old Heacock room and is operated by Jack Marshall.

## BRIEF HISTORY OF SEBRING POST OFFICE

With the first influx of settlers to Sebring, came the urgent need of postal facilities. This was accomplished by establishing the first post office in what was known as the Sebring Land Company's office, a small frame building located where Deemer's news stand is at present, with Dick Albright as first postmaster.

Space was soon inadequate, and the office was moved to a newly constructed store room across the street, where Henry M. Larkins became postmaster and his son William as assistant.

By 1909 the office had grown to such an extent that the corner room of the Mahoning building, corner of Ohio avenue and Fifteenth street, was leased. March 1, 1912, city delivery service was established with William Paxton and William Norris as carriers. In 1913 George J. Windle was appointed postmaster and William Larkins continued as assistant. Large shipments of parcel post by local potteries soon made this room outdated and the local Rotary club instituted a movement toward a Federal building. In 1922 Fred Mills was appointed postmaster, with Earl C. Windle as assistant.

About 1930 Sebring was assured of a Federal post office building and a site at the corner of West Ohio avenue and 16th street was purchased. In 1923 Earl C. Windle resigned as assistant and Paul E. Lincke was appointed. In 1930 Samuel Eardley was appointed postmaster and it was during his term that the new post office building was constructed, in 1934. An outstanding event in the community, was the corner stone laying ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F. & A. M., November 11, 1934. In 1935, Earl C. Windle was appointed postmaster, with Paul E. Lincke continuing as assistant, and they have continued in office since that time. Another milestone was reached July 1, 1949, when the local office was advanced from 2nd class to a 1st class post office.

Present personnel includes: Earl C. Windle, postmaster; Paul E. Lincke, assistant; Elsie G. Mills, clerk; Smith W. Larkins, clerk; Harold Forbes, clerk; Wm. B. Norris, carrier; John D. King, carrier; Allen L. Larkins, carrier; Raymond K. Poorbaugh, regular substitute carrier; Emil Schneider, substitute carrier; William Taylor, substitute carrier; William Garver, substitute clerk; George Head and Ezra Tatsch, custodians; and Lawrence Goodman, mail messenger.

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Sebring was drenched and partially flooded on Saturday night, June 29, 1924, as it caught the lower edge of the Lorain storm. Streets and cellars were flooded, trees and poles blown down, and extensive damage reported to crops and property for miles around.

## DO YOU KNOW THAT

James B. Ward, now deceased, who came to Sebring from Marietta, Ohio, in 1897, molded the first clay ever made in Sebring, at the old Oliver China Co. plant.

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BLACK FRIDAY in the early days of Sebring was Friday, October 14, 1910, when an automobile in which C. J. Albright, president and general manager of the Limoges China Co., Joseph Snedeker, sales manager, John H. Derby, general representative, and George Frederick, foreman of the decorating department were traveling to East Liverpool, was struck by a Stark Electric car at Naylor's crossing and all four men killed.

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A new firm of building contractors not listed in the proper place in this book is that of McBride & Warth. Sebring is possibly not enjoying quite the full extent of the building boom caused by the post-war housing demand, but it is seeing a lot of building, and building contractors and mechanics are in great demand.

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## THE OLD LIVERY BARN

### Do You Remember?

What old timer doesn't remember the old red livery barn on West Oregon avenue, which was built in Sebring's early days? This outdates the auto and if you wanted to go anywhere the livery barn was your answer. This was the day of the horse-drawn hearses, cabs, etc.

What names can you associate with this livery barn? Here are a few: D. I. Miller, Biery Bros., E. M. Stanley, O. H. Murphy.

Then, too, who doesn't remember Flocker Davidson and his racing stallion "Tom Actel," whose home was this livery stable?

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## LIBRARY

Sebring is without a public library at the present time. Beginning during the depression and continuing until April 1, 1948 a small branch of the Alliance public library was operated in the Times office building, with Mrs. Carolyn Elliott and Mrs. J. E. Torbert librarians. The little library performed a very useful service to many but was discontinued when the Mahoning county authorities decided to cut the funds they had been paying to the Alliance library for the service. It is now served once each week by the large Youngstown trailer library.

## LOCAL UNION 20265,

Stamping and Enameling Workers, A. F. of L.

Chartered July 20, 1936, with 75 members.

The first officers were as follows: President, Leo Cook; Vice President, Arthur Steele; Secretary-Treasurer, Kenneth Herold.

The present membership is 950, and the present officers are as follows: President, Dale Beckett; Vice President, Gordon Ritter; Financial Secretary, Burton Bowersock; Treasurer, Clyde Berry.

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## SEBRING TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL, A. F. of L.

The first officers were: President, Clarence Bostwick; Secretary-Treasurer, Jack Newton.

The present officers are: President, Dale Beckett; Vice President, John Hamilton; Secretary-Treasurer, Vernon Brunt.

Chartered September 16, 1940, and comprised of 5 delegates from the following Unions: Nos. 44, 121, 166, 59, 192, 178 of the N. B. O. P., Local 20265, Stamping & Enamel Workers; Electricians, Teamsters, Box Workers.

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## GASOLINE AND AUTOMOBILES

Sebring has a number of first class automobile repair shops, but only five cars are sold here.

Millner Motors has for many years had the sale of the Chevrolet line, Harding's is the agency for the Pontiac, Oroz's Sebring Motor Company sells Chyslers and Plymouths, and DiNiro Motors handles Kaiser-Frazer automobiles.

At least nine brands of gasoline are sold in garages and filling stations; Gulf, at Moore's station; Atlantic, at the Sebring Motor Company; Standard, at Watson's station; Wolf's Head, at Millner's; Sunoco, at Bert's; Canfield, at Erbs; National White Rose, at the Teapot Dome station, all of these on west Ohio avenue. Penn products are sold at the Pontiac station and Pure products at Mercer's, the only two represented on East Ohio avenue.

The Western Auto Supply Co., Bud Redmond manager, maintains a line of accessories, hardware, tools and miscellaneous supply store at 246 North 15th street. The Fred Burchfield news stand in the old Bandy room handles a similar line.

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Shoe repair shops in Sebring are operated by Mike Birthelmer and William Mathison. Andy Sunday and Charley Schwartz were cobblers of the old school.

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OMISSION — The name of Arthur Steele was erroneously omitted from the Honor Roll for World War I.

## THIS, THAT AND T'OTHER

On May 22, 1903, a twister of a storm blew down many trees and completely demolished the grandstand at the ball grounds. The office at the Leasure coal yards was blown over, a door at the forge works was blown off and pottery smoke stacks at the French and other plants were damaged.

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On February 5, 1903, the first Stark Electric car ran from Sebring to Beloit. Morris Stanley, of Beloit, was the first paid passenger to make the trip. On March 4, 1903, the first car was reported from Alliance to Sebring.

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On April 5th, 1910, it was reported that Contractor John Devine was getting an early start on his brick paving contract on the Alliance-Sebring road.

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On August 17, 1906, the local paper reported that crystal nectar was struck at 200 feet, when a well was drilled in front of the town hall. A pump was placed in the well and a nice new tin cup provided. Citizens shouted "Ho for the town pump."

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On January 25, 1907, J. F. Lamborn butchered a shoat which weighed 553 pounds dressed.

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In 1910 the Billy Sunday campaign in Youngstown was attracting much attention. The evangelist's compensation for the revival was \$18,000. Number of converts was 5,915 and church member card players, theatre goers and dancers had tough sledding for a time thereafter.

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It was reported in the Sebring paper of January 6, 1911, that the Sebring Cemetery Association had been formed and had bought 35 acres from Edward Lamborn for \$6,500, the site of the Grandview cemetery.

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The ground used for Quaker Hill cemetery was given to the Hicksite Quakers by Thomas Dixon. Hannah Trago was the first person buried in the cemetery, then in the woods.

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A Sebring pioneer who should have been named among those "men of the hour" who helped make Sebring was F. D. Shewell, born in 1859 in Edinburg, Ohio, moved to Palmyra and came to Sebring before the first family moved into the new town. His hammer and saw were kept busy for many years building the new town.

## *Sponsors of 50th Anniversary Celebration*

The following have contributed to the Celebration fund at the time of this publication going to press.

Leonard Hardware Co.	Badertscher Agency
Western Auto Store	Ohio Public Service
Pizedas Radio & Appliance	Natural Gas Co. of W. Va.
John Zeppernick	Gilbert Ostermeier, Jeweler
Allen & Son	Ed Seitz
Moosman-Vogt Funeral Home	Hal McConnell
Ashton's 5 to \$1.00 Store	Sebring Hdwe. & Plumbing
Mercer Pure Oil Station	Olin R. Shoar Insurance
Ohio Avenue Garage	C. & P. Market
Barclay Machine, Inc.	Clyde Eastham
Manhattan Dry Cleaners	Wilson's Market
Gromoll Drug Store	South Side Market
Bob Vogel, Clothier	Tuel's West End Grocery
Herman Dry Goods	A. L. Campbell Grocery
Sebring Times	Hitchcock Grocery
Sebring Insurance Service	Calderone's Market
Ted & Bill Men's Wear	McGraw Lunch
Art Speakman	Home Bakery
Sebring Motor	Isaly's
J. A. Watson	Buehler Just-Rite Cleaners
Theophan Steve	Emery Dry Cleaners
Millner Motor	Sebring Dry Cleaning
Farmers' National Bank, Salem	Hartzell's Grocery
ALLIANCE CLEARING ASSN.:	Akenhead Ice Cream Co.
Alliance First National Bank	White Palace Restaurant
City Savings Bank & Trust	Sebring Cut Rate Market
Mount Union Bank	Frank LeFevre Insurance Agency
First National Bank of Sebring	Williams & Anderson
Turner Drug Company.	Sebring Lumber Co.
Walter Behlert	Carli Lumber Co.
Coffman Furniture Store	Tausch's Restaurant
Midland-Buckeye Federal Savings & Loan	Mike's Shoe Renewery
Dr. L. E. Curphey	Strand Theatre
Dr. J. M. Warren	McBride & Warth
Dr. E. C. Fowler	P. E. Fink
Dr. E. T. McCune	L. J. Clark
Dr. Edwin C. Louthan	
Dr. M. E. Schaefer	
Dr. John H. Smith	

The Sebring Manufacturers' Association sponsored the sale of automobile tickets.

Many others have contributed thru the purchase of car tickets.

## PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Among the organizations backing the Sebring schools and trying to keep up the most intimate and friendly relations among parents, teachers and pupils, is the Sebring Parent-Teacher Association, organized in the early 20's under the superintendency of S. H. Pollock. The first president was J. E. Torbert. At present Mrs. Ralph Muerth is president, Mrs. David Reed, vice president, Mrs. Harold Smith, secretary and Mrs. Stella Franke, treasurer. The association meets the third Monday night of each month and follows the general pattern of P. T. A. meetings, affording a social hour for parents and teachers to get better acquainted and providing a program that will be both inspirational and instructive. The meetings are always open to all and the largest possible membership is desired.

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## BAND BOOSTERS CLUB

Sebring no longer has a village band and the high school band is called into service for all community needs as well as for school occasions.

The band and Pat Conway, music instructor and band director in Sebring schools, are one in everybody's thinking. "Pat" was the moving spirit when the idea of a school band first took form and still fills the same role. The hours "Pat" has put in with those youngsters, his patience, tact, enthusiasm and hard work are beyond calculation.

To help along with the band, a Band Mothers' club was early formed and has been very active in seeing that the boys and girls have attractive uniforms and good instruments and receive every possible encouragement from the community.

Formed in the 20's, Mrs. John Daniels was the first president.

Recently the scope of the organization has been widened, men admitted, and the name changed to the Band Boosters' Club. Fred Morrow is president, Mrs. Clyde Wiley vice-president, Mrs. Helen Trainer secretary, and Mrs. Calvin Eaton treasurer. The club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month in the McKinley school building.

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## BOOSTERS CLUB

Organized about 1946 to put new life into high school athletics, the Sebring Boosters' Club has been a very busy organization and by their sponsorship and continuous encouragement have made football and basketball most interesting features of fall and winter life in Sebring. The teams have a good athletic field and gymnasium, with showers, good uniforms and equipment and, better than all, a good spirit behind them with good support at home and abroad. The Boosters' club has had much to do with it all.

George Stanford was the first president. Officers in 1949 are as follows: President, Harold Smith; Secretary-treasurer, Dennis Steed.

## JUNIOR FIREMEN

One of the groups of young men that has been outstanding in its success in recent years is the Junior Firemen. Under the leadership of Sel Trainer it became an organization with a fame much more than local. By assisting the senior firemen and training themselves to take the places of their elders as they retire from active service, the Juniors have made a real contribution to the town. Their social activities and public relations are being reflected in the Jay Cee organization, to which many of the boys belong.

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## SOUTH SIDE MOTHERS CLUB

Acting much as a second Parent-Teacher association, but with some ideas peculiarly its own and particularly interested in the school on the south side of Sebring, the South Side Mothers' club was formed in 1938. The full name since adopted is "The South Side Mothers and Teachers' Club." Mrs. John Daniels was the first president and Mrs. Stephen Tucker the first secretary. Its purpose was to establish better relations among parents, teachers and pupils, and to give the children on the south side the best educational advantages possible. It meets the last Monday of each month and from 35 to 60 interested mothers are usually in attendance. These mothers make it their business to know what is going on in the South Side school, and when a few years ago the building inspector began to cast doubts about the safety of the building, the club got busier than ever. Things had to be fixed immediately to insure safety and temporary improvements were made post haste, but the building and its location did not meet approval and a campaign for a new South Side building was started and continued until today a fine new modern school building is under construction on a tract of land that is high and dry, away from industries, and large enough for a public park, outside the school uses. The Sebring Jaycees are at work developing the park. To the mothers in this group too much credit cannot be given. Present officers are: Mrs. Wm. Faudree president; Mrs. George Tuel, vice president; Mrs. Donald Tuel, secretary; Mrs. D. E. Brotherton, treasurer. Mrs. George Tuel, Mrs. Glenn Matticks and Mrs. Stephen Tucker comprise a very active building committee.

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## HOT STOVES

A new booster organization for sports in Sebring is the Hot Stove league, just organized this year and headed by Ed Tatsch. Being so close to Alliance, the seat of a national Hot Stove organization, headed by Cy Butler, it is doing a lot to promote baseball interest in the community outside of school activities. It seems probable that some old-time baseball spirit may be aroused and some Sebring boys brought up to carry on the traditions of the early days in the town and add their names to the lustrous list of greats of the diamond.













